Voting of Demands for Grants.

6. XVI Jails Rs. 40,517 (contd.)

Motion No. 3. (*contd.*)

President.—Yesterday we were on Demand No. XVI Jails and Dr. A. R. Menon moved his cut motion No. 3 and Dr. Verghese was on his legs when the Council rose for the day, and you had not finished.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No Sir.

President.—Is Dr. A. R. Menon expected to-day to know your explanation? Will he be coming shortly?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—He will come shortly.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Even if he is absent?....

President.—Out of courtesy, when the Member accused gives his explanation, it is only courteous and proper that the other is present. Even the other day Mr. Cater, the Agent, was remarking to me that it would not be proper for the Members to go away after their speeches were finished. They must try to be here. So many things you can gather. As far as possible, Members would try to be present, and if, for any reason, they are not able to be present, just give information to the President and give certain reasons for not being present. Otherwise you say certain things and we want to reply to them and the reply may satisfy you. There is no means of knowing whether our explanation is acceptable to the Member.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—If a reference is made to me, during the budget discussion, I had to go by that train on an urgent private matter. Government replies only on the second day, and on that day I was ready here to hear the reply.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—In this matter of the Jail in the agenda that is put down here I find that a cut that I tabled is not brought into this agenda.

President.—I have given you the information. I allow the discussion about the policy, and all those will be accepted. You may argue on that. We are getting prepared for the same.

Any Member in possession of information, whether Dr. A. R. Menon will be coming shortly? We must go on.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Dr. A. R. Menon is come, Sir.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Before resuming my discussion of yesterday, I would crave the protection of the Chair from rude interruptions which seem to be a special feature when I speak. Hysterical outbursts are likely to arise when unpalatable truths are uttered which the circumstances of the case may call for. The legality and soundness of my action in recommending the transfer of a prisoner from the Central

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Jail for observation and treatment in the General Hospital was questioned and unwarranted inuendoes of motive were ascribed to that action. This matter was attempted to be made the subject of an adjournment motion during the last session of this Council. Baulked in that attempt by the inadvertance of the Hon'ble Member who was the agent of that motion, this subject has been introduced again through a cut motion, in exultation that he has found a good bone to quarrel over. I am afraid, it will be again a case of the biter bit. It seems to be that for any one who meant decent business, this waste of words in Council might have been avoided by the Hon'ble Member spanning the floor of this House from that corner to this. But that course is derogatory to his sence of infallibility and I know that verification of facts is not his besetting virtue so far as my department is concerned.

Yesterday I told you of the existence of a disease strangely confined to life-convicts of the jail at Trichur, which has, to all appearance, the clinical aspects of neuritis due to beri-beri and which has up to now baffled all methods of treatment carried out there. I traced the progress of these cases yesterday till the end of 1926. On my last visit that year I learned the case of a life convict who was similarly affected and released from the jail on the strength of the certificate of the then Civil Surgeon as being hopelessly incurable, having been benefitted by Ayurvedic treatment. I traced out that man, had him brought up to me to my bungalow for my inspection and I brought the result of my inspection to the notice of the Superintendent of the Central Jail by a brief letter which I wrote to that office and which will explain the situation.

"Soon after my return to head quarters after my last visit to the Central Jail, I saw the prisoner, Chacko, No. 1722 of Perumanur who was released from the jail on account of neuritis which was considered incurable. I have examined him again this week and I am struck with the improvement that he has derived by Ayurvedic treatment. He is able to walk freely ; in fact he walked from Perumanur to my bungalow. The enclosed is the prescription of the application he has been getting. I wish you will try the same on the man now in hospital for that complaint. If necessary I shall send the physician who has been treating this prisoner to Trichur to carry out the treatment. A nominal remuneration is all that need be given."

Sir, this is the genesis of the Ayurvedic treatment which was subsequently tried in the jail for these cases, sad to say, without any beneficial results. After the completion of this treatment, the cases of Vareed and Subbiah and Sheikanna were given up as hopelessly incurable.

At this stage the jail authorities brought up the case of Vareed and Subbiah to the notice of Government for release under Sections 477 and 478 of Jail Rules. This was referred

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to me by Government for my opinion. It was with a view to examine these two men on this reference that I visited the jail on 31st January 1930, when I came to know for the first time of the existence of Kuriappan as ailing from the same disease. The remark that I made in the visitors book kept in the jail at Trichur in that connection would be pertinent now to be read.

"Visited Central Jail with reference to the recommendations for release of the two cases of advanced neuritis, Vareed and Subbiah. I find that another case exactly similar in the symptoms manifested by these cases has taken place since my last visit on 5th December. This convict, accused in the Kottanellur Murder case, got the attack suddenly by a fit followed by unconsciousness. When he recovered from the effect of this, his lower extremities were found to have partially lost the power of movement. He has been rapidly getting worse until he looks almost as bad as the other advanced cases, I strongly recommend his transfer to the General Hospital for observation and treatment."

Now these are the facts.

President.—What did you do with Kuriappan after he has been transferred to General Hospital? Where are the others now?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Kuriappan has been sent back. As to Subbiah and Varied, they are in the jail.

The Member prefaced his speech by saying that the ground was cut under his feet. I came to understand that there was something like a conspiracy, not perhaps without the knowledge of the Hon'ble Member, to delay giving effect to the Diwan's Order for the transfer of the prisoner back to the jail and to detain him in the General Hospital until this budget session. Whatever that might be, suffice it to say, that I got an inkling of it and had it thwarted, and it is, therefore, true that I did cut the ground under his feet.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I am sorry to interrupt the speaker. Will he kindly tell me what the conspiracy is?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is not relevant to the occasion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—On a point of order, Sir. Can an Hon'ble Member use such an expression as 'conspiracy'. Oh, it might appear grand. But officials also must use proper words. Otherwise if I use a word in return, I request the House as well as the Chair will show the same indulgence to me. That is all what I have to say. Carry on.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The first and main question in his inveighment against me was 'why was the prisoner taken.' The answer is recorded in my remarks in the visitors' book of the jail of 31st January 1930 which I read just before and also letter of the Inspector-General of Prisons.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is that?

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Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The above remark made by me in the visitor's book and the letter of the Inspector General of Prisons has reference to this. The letter runs thus:

"In submitting herewith copy of the remarks made by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer in the visitors' book of the Central Jail on 31st January 1930 regarding the transfer of life convict 232, Kuriappan who is suffering from neuritis, to the General Hospital for observation and better treatment I have the honour to request that the Diwan may be pleased to order the transfer of the said convict to the General Hospital under Rule 44 of the Jail rules."

These communications disclose the authority and purpose for which the prisoner was transferred. In this respect I wish to draw your attention, Sir, to my remarks in the jail visitors' book dated 5th December 1929 nearly two months before the remarks just read that, in consequence of the failure of every form of treatment for these unfortunate victims of neuritis, it had dawned upon my mind that a change of environment might be combined with any further treatment for these cases. You will find it recorded in my notes of 5th December 1929 "Visited jail and found everything in order. There are two additional cases of incipient neuritis—An entire change of surroundings at this stage is a matter worth trying. I shall investigate the possibility of accommodating them in the sub-jail at Ernakulam and report to Government."

It was not a new idea which had suggested itself to my mind for the sake of the prisoner, Kuriappan, and by the wealth of that prisoner as the Member had maliciously insinuated.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Not maliciously.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Those remarks were recorded while this man was quite healthy in the jail and his illness was not then dreamt of. The further accusation for this act of humanity and professional keenness was 'why was preference shown to a 'murderer', 'to the man who had committed the most heinous offence', 'the most guilty person' and 'the rich man'.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*Hear, hear.*

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There, Sir, that is the insinuation.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—You own it.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Medical science makes no difference, in the bestowal of its benefits, between the outcaste and the saint, between the rich and the poor, and the guilty and the innocent. It extends its healing arms to where pain is to be alleviated; and where misery is to be relieved. The Hon'ble Member who has distributed his allegiance between two mistresses, the profession and politics (*laughter*) has perhaps lost the pure and high devotion he owes to the former and finds fault with me for following the sacred ethics of professional duty.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—*Hear, hear,*.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I shall now answer why this man was singled out or 'preferred' as the Hon'ble Member put it. (see my remarks of 5th December again) 'An entire change of surrounning at thif stage is a matter worth trying'. This man was attacked on 12th December and during my visit on 30th January that is within a few weeks I found that his case had advanced in a most rapid manner to very nearly the condition of the other three persons. Here was a recent acute case and if anything active had to be done at all with any prospect of benefit it had to be done then, before the case became settled into a chronic state. The other three were 6 to 18 months old cases and all three of them had been declared to be hopeless in consequence of which two had been recommended by the Inspector-General of Prisons for release.

That bring to my mind another instance. Later on I found that another man who was also similarly released in the same circumstances was in Pollachi and I worte to the Superintendent of Police, Madras, to kindly sent my letter to the Superintendent of Police Coimbatore and this is the result. The individual in question is one Nagappanasari of Pollachi. He too was cured. Sir, these are the two cases which were declared to be hopelessly incurable and consequently I considered that I did not want to be in a predicament like that to have sent out convicts from the jall without being actually sure that they were really incurable.

For these cases I agreed that no treatment however vehement and active, could be of any avail and that is the reason why they were let alone. It is true that my delay in supporting the recommendation of the jail authorities to release Subbiah and Vareed and the unexpected transfer of Kuriappan to the General Hospital was not appreciated in that quarter. But all these facts could have been supplied to him in a trice if he were desirous of knowing the truth. On the other hand, having become the dupe of disgruntled subordinates he has dragged all the garbage gathered outside to the floor of this House without taking pains to shift them. I had a special motive in not readily supporting the release of the men recommended by the jail authorities; it was that I did not want to have living examples of my defective progrostic acumen as the two men now living in Perumanur and Pollachi (*laughter*) were neither did I want. The men released by my recommendation came back to the jail for rimilan offences. I did not want to consult or abide by the opinion of the Superintendent of Jail, a layman, for the professional treatment of the cases in the jail. My orders in that direction are supreme which he has only to carry out.

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Finally, Sir, with all these facts before this House, was there any justification for the Member in attributing or insituting unworthy motives for a high act of humanity and professional duty ? (*Hear, hear*). Sir, outside this House, for his depredations into the field of my official actions, he has had a castigation, the sting of which evidently still remains. In this House he is probably privileged but privileged or not, to say the least, it was an act of ungentlemanliness to cast a gratuitous reproach upon an officer who sits on equal terms with him in this House.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Not worse than you.

President.—Don't interrupt.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghse.—Sir, respectability is what respectability does.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We can see.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The suggestions made regarding the alteration of rules in the jail are not in my opinion called for, because the sections 41 and 42 of the Cochin Jail Rules give ample directions for all the discipline that is required. It is a replica of the Jail Rules in force in the Madras Presidency where the rules of jail discipline are perfect. If any occasion of breach of discipline has occurred, it is due to the defective working of the rules provided.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, yesterday at about 4o' clock we began the discussion of this budget head, namely, the jail.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—15 minutes to 5. I took only 10 minutes.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—May be. I am open to correction. I did not consult the watch at that particular moment. I am not going to speak about the length of time, but something more important. It is rather strange that, though we have spent so much time, however little or however large that may be, we have not yet heard one word in the interests of the jail population (*Hear, hear*). Unfortunately, though a poor lawyar of Ernakulam, I am constrained to remark that the discussion has assumed an aspect which reveals to my mind a sort of family feud (*hear. hear*). The two points, I like to appeal to the Surgeon-General just now, the two points that have been raised and much commented upon under this head are the non-recognition of the training of a particular officer, secondly the removal of a prisoner from the Jail to the General Hospital, if I am right. These are the only two points that we discussed, and so much time was spent. Not a word either for the welfare of the prisoners or for reformation of the existing defects in the jail, if any.

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President.—If the jail population is looked after well, and if there are no defects, why should there be a discussion? (*hear, hear.*)

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—That is why I used the two words 'if any'.

President.—You said you heard nothing about the defects in the jail administration. My observation is when they are quite alright, why should we raise a discussion on those points?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Therefore, without mentioning anything to throw the budget or to accept the budget, was the only course proper. (Cries of why! why!) Instead of that my Hon'ble Colleagues have taken the trouble to diverge, as I said before, on a family feud. To take up the first point, which I shall dismiss with a single remark, all human beings are born with two hands with equal strength at the time of birth. But a few years of existence brings about a change in the right hand which the left has not. It gains a little more strength.

Preident.—In a few cases the reverse (*Laughter*).

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Oh yes. I am not concentrating my attention specifically upon exceptions. I rely more upon the general rules.

President.—It appeared to me to be a generalisation.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I do not want to leave the left-hand alone, when they develop their hands. But the difference is the same. The principle that I emphasise is the same.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Please come to the point.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—If you do not allow me to come to the point, what can I do? (*Laughter*). Two officers trained in the same institution and appointed on equal pay. Fortunately or unfortunately when one vacancy occurred one of them was preferred because two of them cannot be preferred at the same time. That is a matter which is to be criticised in the Jail Budget, because the connection with that is the preferred man went to Jail, not inside but outside. Now that is taken as a point for discussion under the Jail Budget head. I do not know, though a poor lawyer, whether that is a matter of relevancy to the enquiry of the subject before the House.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—The subject was entirely different.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—On a point of order. For his information, though a great lawyer, it has been withdrawn by him. It is irregular to talk upon that subject.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I am supporting your motion. (*Laughter.*)

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President.—When the President rises, it is the elementary principle of all constituted assemblies that all the other Members should sit, and I am glad that the rule has been observed here.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I am sorry, we cannot see you.

President.—I must insist and I have made up my mind to be a little firm on this subject that, when a Member speaks, he should not be interrupted unless for a matter of personal explanation. If he has gone wrong, he may be corrected, when the reply comes. (*Hear, hear*). This sort of interruption I have been watching for the last four days, and it is not fitting to the dignity of the House (*hear, hear*). I have got the power as President to see that the Proceedings are conducted in a dignified manner (*hear, hear*), but at the same time I must have the support of all the Members of the House here (*hear, hear*) to see that no one obstructs the rights and privileges of the House (*hear, hear*).

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—On a point of order, Sir. The Member has been referring to my motion of yesterday. It was withdrawn. He has misunderstood the matter.

President.—Please sit down. Now go on, Mr. Krishna Menon.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—The other point that has been discussed under this head is neuritis, and we have been treated yesterday with a thesis upon vitamines, b, c, d or e, whatever that may be.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No thesis.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I respectfully beg to submit that that could have been a better subject for discussion in a medicine class. Of course I know the duty of every Hon'ble Member to reply to aspersions cast or the criticisms made whether bonafide or malafide, I do not mind. But if the thing can be done in the most dignified form by ignoring, if it can be ignored, certainly I would consider that the fittest rebuke for an unwarranted attack (President: *hear, hear*). Why the Kuriarkutty incident that took place five or six years ago has been raked up even in 1105? Could that not be buried once for all? (*hear, hear*). Had we not had enough and more of Kuriarkutty and the scrap of paper which came into existence and which has been removed or expunged? Why should we go to these forgotten nothings and waste the time of the House by going over this over and over again? There must be an end for all these things and we must assume the most serious aspect in dealing with budgets (*hear, hear*), which are the hope, stay and support of the next year. I, Sir, of course do not want to take up much of the time.

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Of course without meaning anything personal, the feud seems to be between doctors, and I appeal to you, Sir, as the Surgeon-General, the highest doctor.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—On a personal point of order. Do the doctors include myself also? (*Laughter*). He says between doctors. I am also a doctor. Does he bring in my name also?

Mr. P. Krishna Menonn.—No. I would appeal to you to minister to the minds of the diseased.

President.—You appeal to some Surgeon-General. Who is the Surgeon-General?

Mr P. Krishna Menon.—As the President of the Council who is the authority to control the Members of the Council just as the Surgeon-General is in the Medical Department. I say that I want you to minister to the minds of the diseased.

President.—Why don't you also support me?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—With both hands, Sir.

President.—What is the use of the President constantly raising the point? It is in the power of the other Members. When a Member is going out of order, or is inconsistent, the Members have every right to draw the attention of the President and draw the attention of the Members of the Council. And my grievance has all along been that I alone have to administer all these things.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—You are mistaken.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ചീഫ് മെഡിക്കൽ ആഫീസർ മറുപടിയിൽ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെയാണു് കായ്മെങ്കിൽ അതു വലിയ അനീതിയാണു്. ജയിലിൽ നാലുപേക്കു രോഗം പിടിച്ചു. അതിൽ രണ്ടുപേർ ഹോപ്‌ലസ് ആയപ്പോൾ ജയിലിൽനിന്നും വിട്ടു. അവർ പുറമെ എവിടെയൊ പോയി. ഈശ്വരകാരുണ്യത്താൽ സുഖക്കേടു ഭേദപ്പെട്ടു നടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടാണു ബാക്കിയുള്ള സുഖക്കേടുകാരെ വിടാത്തതെന്നു പറയുന്നു. ഇതു ആക്ഷേപാർഹമാണു്.

പ്രസിഡണ്ടു്.—മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ ചോദിക്കുന്നതു് രണ്ടാളുകളെ ഹോപ്‌ലസ് ആയി വിട്ടു് സുഖപ്പെട്ടു നടക്കുന്നതു് നെക്കുതിയാണൊ ഇപ്പോൾ കിടക്കുന്നവരെ വിടാത്തതെന്താണല്ലെ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ഗവൺമെൻറു് ഹോപ്‌ലസ്എന്നു കണ്ടു് അവരെ വിട്ടയച്ചു. അവർപൊള്ളാച്ചിയിലൊ പെരുമാന്തുരുത്തിലൊ എവിടെയെങ്കിലുംചെന്നു രോഗം ഭേദപ്പെട്ടതിൽ അസൂയ വിചാരിച്ചിട്ടെന്തുഫലം? സുഖപ്പെട്ടതു അവരുടെ ഭാഗ്യം. ഹോപ്‌ലസ് എന്നു കണ്ടു വിടാമെന്നുവച്ചാൽ എല്ലാവരെയും വിടണം, സുഖമാകുന്നതു് അവരുടെ വിധി. പക്ഷെ ഇപ്പോൾ അ

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ങ്ങനെ വിടുന്നതും ചികിത്സിപ്പിക്കുന്നതും ചിലആളുകളുടെഇഷ്ടാനിഷ്ടങ്ങൾ അനുസരിച്ചാണെന്നു ഇവിടെ നടന്ന സംസ്സാരങ്ങളിൽനിന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നു.

ചീഫ് മെഡിക്കൽ ആഫീസർ രോഗികളായ രണ്ടുപേരെ പരിശോധിക്കുവാനായിട്ടണു ജയിലിൽപോയതു്. പക്ഷെ അവരെ ഹോപ്‌ലസ് എന്നു കണ്ടു തള്ളിയിട്ടു് മൂന്നാമതൊരാളെയാണു് ചികിത്സിപ്പാൻ ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്തതു്. ആ മൂന്നാമത്തെയാൾ സത്തുകാരനായതുകൊണ്ടാണു് അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്തതെന്നു ജനങ്ങൾആക്ഷേപിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ തെറ്റുപറവാൻ തരമില്ല. അതു ലോകസാധാരണമായ ഒരാക്ഷേപമാണ, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ എന്തുകൊണ്ടുമറ്റു സാധുക്കളുടെമേൽ ദയവുണ്ടായില്ല? ഒന്നുചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആക്ഷേപത്തെകൂടി കുറച്ചൊക്കെയെങ്കിലും ഭയപ്പെടണം. അതിന്റെ ഫലം എന്തായിരിക്കുമെന്നുകൂടി നോക്കുന്നതു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കണം. ബാക്കിയുള്ളവർ സാധുക്കളായതിനാൽ അവർ ചത്താൽ തരക്കേടില്ല എന്നും ഈ ആൾ സത്തുകാരനായതുകൊണ്ടു ചത്താൽ ദോഷമുണ്ടു് എന്നുമായിരിക്കാം ചീഫ് മെഡിക്കൽ ആഫീസർ പക്ഷെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചതു് പുറമെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഇടയിൽ ഉണ്ടായേക്കാവുന്ന ആക്ഷേപത്തെ അദ്ദേഹംനോക്കിയില്ല.

ഹോപ്‌ലസ് ആയാൽ വിടണമെന്നല്ല പറയുന്നതു്- അതു് ഗവൺമെന്റു് ആലോചിച്ചുചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണു - രോഗികളെ, സത്തുകാരനെന്നും ദരിദ്രനെന്നും നോക്കാതെ എല്ലാവരെയും ഒരുപോലെ വിചാരിച്ചു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കണം- അതാണു" "humanity." അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇതുപോലുള്ള ആക്ഷേപങ്ങൾ കേൾക്കേണ്ടിവരുന്നതിൽ സങ്കടപ്പെടാനുമില്ല.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—On a point of information. How long have the two referred to been suffering from neuritis? When this disease was diagnosed?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vareed 8th Karkadagam 1103. It is nearly two years now. Sheikannan 20th Kanni 1104, Subbiah 7th Edavam 1104 and Kuriappan 27th Vischigam 1105.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—What all treatments were they given? Were there not recommendations to transfer these prisoners from the jail? It is only for information.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I said Sir, that almost all teatments then known were tried and yesterday as the Hon'ble Member for Vyttila was saying, I was giving a thesis on vitamines. Of course all treatments were tried. This disease has baffled our efforts to cure. Many treatments were tried one after the other without benefit and then finally when all these things failed it dawned upon me that perhaps a change of

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altogether of surroundings and environments may do good, and therefore it was that I made that remark on 5th of December prior to the transfer of this particular patient. Then my idea was to transfer both of them to the sub-jail, Ernakulam. I came here and I found that there was absolutely no accommodation there. I left the matter there. Only I went in pursuance of the order of the Government to see about the condition of those patients.

President.—Why all these now ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I only wanted informtion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I also know, Sir, whether the other two cases were suffering when the Chief Medical Officer saw them for the first time ? How many months after the commencement of the disease of neuritis these came to your notice ?

President.—You refer to Vareed and Subbiah ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Vareed, Subbiah and Shekannan. I want to know when did the Chief Medical Officer first see this disease there ?

President.—The thing assumed importance only after the Doctor came to know of the relief obtained by the Perumanur man and it is only after the relief obtained by them was seen he thought that we must try this.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The only point that I wish to emphasise is, there were about 5 cases of neuritis in the jail. The insinuation, if any, was made when a particular prisoner was preferred for good treatment when the disease was in an acute stage. From the explanation of the Hon'ble Member for Medicine I understood that being in the acute stage something possibly could be done, to get rid of the disease.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I thought something could be tried.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May be tried. And, therefore, he recommended his removal to the General Hospital for further treatment. Surely, Sir, if the other cases were also cases of neuritis when they came to the Jail, they must have also passed through the same acute stage.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Not of this type. I explained everything. The disease came slowly in those cases. In the other case it was rather different. It suddenly came and also fits of senselessness, and he had loss of limbs, etc. That was different from the usual cases.

President.—My rulings are set at naught. You go against my ruling.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—By officials even.

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Mr. A. B Salem.—What I understood from the Hon'ble Member's speech was that there were five cases of neuritis. I am not a doctor to understand all these technical things.

President.—You speak from a layman's point of view.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Yes. They must have also passed through the same acute stage; but there might be a difference in the disease. But then, why were not they also removed to the General Hospital for observation and for treatment? (*Hear, hear.*) It is now said, that these cases have not passed through the earlier stages at all. They had come to a hopeless stage by December last year, and it is one of the rules of the jail that in case of incurable disease prisoners are let out. And we also know of two cases who have been released from the jail on account of incurability of disease and we also found the confession that Ayurvedic treatment was able to give them relief which the Allopathic great doctors of our State could not give inside the jail. They pronounced them helpless and the indigenous medicine was able to do something.

President.—Some such cases are not rare. Our friend Dr. A. R. Menon, who was rescued by Ayurvedic treatment is an instance. Is it not so? Then why do you say that?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Our case is that Ayurvedic Doctors must be paid much more.

President.—We are not on the question of the pay of the Ayurvedic Doctors.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is why I am not entering upon that subject at all.

Here there are two cases which have been cured after release. And two cases recommended by the jail authorities with the recommendation of an Allopathic Doctor attached to the jail, and sent to the Chief Medical Officer for remarks by the Government are still pending. What is the justification? If prisoners who are hopeless, and in the opinion of the Chief Medical Officer also hopeless, when he visited the jail why were not their cases reported by him to the Government, to the effect that these are hopeless cases and so Government may do what they like, at least, if there was any recommendation to release them from jail. Whereas on the other hand we find the Chief Medical Officer goes there for the purpose of reporting upon these two cases, which have been referred to him for the purpose of a report from him as to whether what should be done in these two cases. What should be done is in the manual of the jail, and the jail authorities have recommended their release; for remarks it was sent to the Chief Medical Officer. He goes to the jail, re-examines the

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cases, find them hopeless, makes no recommendation regarding these two, one way or the other, does not make any report for the Government to act upon. He makes a report of the third case that has come to his notice. It is a recent case ; recommends that third case to be brought to the General Hospital. Naturally we will say what is this ? That is what has been said in this House. Is it not natural to put a question, why this differential treatment is given in these instances. (*Hear, hear*) Is there anything wrong in putting a question inside the House? The language may have been unfortunate; but the facts are there and they must speak for themselves. It is admitted by the Hon'ble Member on the other side that there has been delay in reporting these two cases and that they are still inside the jail. Why, is the question.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Delay then at that time.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is it. The case is upon that delay. Why delay in these cases ; why prompt action in the third case, which you were not asked to report? I accept the Hon'ble Member's explanation that feelings of humanity and professional enthusiasm to try and cure an acute case weighed with the Hon'ble Member to make his recommendation. I applaud that action. But I cannot applaud the other action for keeping silent over the papers of the other two cases. If simultaneously with this important case he made a report regarding these two cases saying incidentally 'I came across a case', nothing could be said. But when those two cases are not reported upon, for which the visit to the jail was made and the 3rd case for which the visit was not made is reported, this question certainly becomes a legitimate question, and that is all what I wish to point out in this matter. But if there is anything in it, I am ready to hear the Hon'ble Member's explanation.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Sir, I am rather bewildered by the turn taken by the discussion. Then also by my difficulty to apprehend what really is at the bottom of this bother. Here is the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer saying that he discovred a rather difficult case to cure, at a stage when he thought he might experiment some treatment on that patient, perhaps with some success, he suggested that the patient may be removed to the General Hospital for trial. One would think that left alone, that was a meritorious act. But it is urged that the doctor also found two other people hopelessly affected by neuritis, in the jail, and they were not removed. Why should they continue to remain there. When they remain there, why should this man be taken to the General Hospital? I think that is the limit of the attack.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—No, no, no.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Well, that is to say why are those two remaining still in the jail when this man is removed to the General Hospital.

President.—What I have understood from Mr. Salem was that the Doctor went there for the specific purpose of reporting upon two cases. There was a report by the Superintendent of Jail to the Government. The Government forwarded it to the Chief Medical Officer for remarks to investigate and give opinion. He visited the jail, and then examined these patients regarding their condition and then found them too hopeless. In the course of the inspection, he found another case quite incidentally, this Kuriappan, who was also suffering from this neuritis, and he recommended that he may be tried because he had known that this Perumanur man was cured. Having gone there for a specific purpose to submit to the Government a report in regard to these cases namely Vareed and Subbiah, why he had not taken action with regard to that? That is the point.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—It is for that purpose I say that I at once proceeded to ask the Government whether the Hon'ble Member for Medicine left any remark when he left the jail that day as regards the condition of those two others who were hopeless.

I want to know whether the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, before he returned from the jail or immediately after his return, made any remark in the jail books or made any report to the Government about the condition of those two.

President.—All this has been read in the House.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What I understood from that was that he had pronounced those cases as hopeless. If that is so, where is the point of the attack?

President.—If he has found it to be hopeless, then, why not make a recommendation to the Government?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Now what is the duty of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer? That is what I want to understand. His opinion was asked about the condition of the prisoners. He said two cases were hopeless. Then whose duty was it to consider whether the patients should be discharged or not? It is the duty of the Government.

President.—It is a matter for enquiry.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Enquiry, by whom? By the Government.

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President.—The Government asked him to report.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What did he report?

President.—I think it was that these people are hopelessly incurable and that they may be released if the Government considres it necessary.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I would like to know the date of the report.

President.—If you have reported to the Government that these are hopeless cases and should be discharged and should not be kept in the jail you are free. The burden entirely falls upon those who have delayed it. Let them answer it.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What I say is this. To my humble mind what appears to have been the duty of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer who had been asked to report on the matter was to say what he honestly thought was the condition of those patients. He can only propose to the Government that they may release those patients if they considered it necessary or proper. The Government must take the opinion of its experts and decide. Now for instance, I will take the case of that Sheikannan who is said to be a hopeless neuratic. Do you think that there will not be a hue and cry if that Sheikannan was released?

President.—There may be.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is it for the doctor to decide whether Sheikannan should be released? There may be risks and he may be called on to explain. My point is this. I can understand if the doctor has not said that those people were hopeless. It is a prerogative of His Highness to release life convicts. If this is conceded what remains in the argument is not worth noticing. It is the duty of the doctor to suggest that such and such persons should be removed to the General Hospital, if he considers it fit or necessary. After all there is only a transient change from the jail to the Ernakulam General Hospital. I suppose he has been sent back to jail. Now the point is this. When the Member in charge of Medicine was speaking he objected to what was thought to be as an insinuation that Kuriappan was removed because he was rich. At once I found that the Hon'ble Member for Trichur saying that there was no such insinuation. I am very glad of that. Because I am sure my Hon'ble friend the Member for Trichur will never make such an unfounded or reckless insinuation. I have taken his word as the final word in the matter. If then there is no insinuation of any unlawful or illegal influence brought to bear upon the doctor, what remains of the allegation is next to nothing. A certain amount of animosity is intruding

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in their discussions. There may be bones to pick between Members. Should these be debated or ventilated on the floor of this House? I can understand an Hon'ble Member rising and saying "you forgetting your duty were bribed and did so and so and that you preferred the transfer of this one patient from the jail wholly ignoring the case of others;" but any reference to such an aspertion was repudiated by the Hon'ble the mover. In these circumstances, I must respectfully submit, that this unfortunate discussion does not seem to lead us any where. I would be certainly at one with the Hon'ble Member for Trichur if he has made out a case that any Head of the Department has given preferential treatment for any but legal and fair reasons. But vague allegations, clandestively adverted to, on the floor of the House, and subsequently denied—lead us nowhere. I conclude by saying that if these two prisoners are hopeless cases certainly they are not fit to be retained in jail. Whether they should be released or not is a fact to be considered by the Government. There may be so many other reasons. Even the patient who is suffering from a most incurable disease may not be released from jail for reasons. The removal in question does not appear to give room for any adverse comment, in view of the observations made by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—It was indeed a pity that the Hon'ble Member for Trichur was the person who moved this token cut. If it had been anybody else no motives would have been attributed for having made this cut motion. But apart from that we have to see whether there is any substance in the allegations put forward before this House. Now the allegations are that there were four prisoners in the jail who were suffering from this disease. In the case of three of them it was diagnosed by the doctor only after the matter was reported to him by the jail authorities. There is a rule that the jail has to be inspected periodicially by a medical officer; but in spite of the periodical inspection of the jail, the medical officer could not diagnose the disease in the patients. But it could be diagnosed only after the jail authorities reported the matter to him. But in the case of this particular individual—this Kuriappen who is reported to be a rich man—it was diagnosed accidentally while the Doctor went there to examine the other patients. He accidentally came upon this Kuriappen and found out that he was suffering from that disease. By that time the other patients have passed from the acute to the chronic stage. If so, it must have been because they were suffering for a long time. The disease was diagnosed

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only on 8th Karkadagam 1103, 20th Kanni 1104 and 7th Edavam 1104. When the disease was diagnosed it had already gone too far and they were considered to be chronic cases. Why is it that they were not found out together? Why is it in the case of Kuriappen alone it was accidentally diagnosed at a time when the Doctor went there not for that purpose but for examining some other patients at the instance of a report submitted by the jail authorities? This appears to be suspicious and is a matter which requires some explanation on the part of the officer concerned.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Sir, by the long discussion we had on the subject, I see that there have been so many misapprehensions about this matter, and the Hon'ble Members had not grasped all the aspects of the question and, therefore, this different view. What we have before us is:—Two prisoners were reported to be suffering from neuritis which is incurable. The Doctor gets the report and goes to see those two prisoners. The third he does not accidentally diagnose. He is told that there is a third case and a recent case. The misapprehension in some quarters is that the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer is the officer in charge of the medical welfare of the prisoners. There is a Civil Surgeon, who is responsible for that. When he was told that he had occasion to look into that matter. Then the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer who came to know of the third case had in his mind the question whether this case has to be declared incurable or not. Two cases which were so declared were reported to him or brought to his notice, as approaching cure. If the cases declared incurable by him are afterwards cured, they will affect his reputation and also his professional name to have made a wrong diagnosis. This must have worked on his mind. Accordingly he wanted to know what exactly is the cause of the disease and what exactly the remedies were which accidentally brought the cure. Therefore, to have a closer study of the disease and to have the case at hand, he recommended that the prisoner who had the most recent attack be removed from the jail to the General Hospital. Then why were not the other two removed is the question asked.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I never asked such a question, Sir.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I never said that you asked the question.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I rise to make a personal explanation? I put the question why, when the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer who went there to report on those particular cases, why that report was not first made before sending

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up the report of the third case. That was lost sight of by my Hon'ble friend on the left.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I am going to answer that very question. He must be first sure that the disease is really incurable. So a responsible officer having the knowledge of medicine and also having seen the actual effect of the disease on the prisoner will be particularly careful before he makes a statement that the disease is incurable. Before doing so, he would make enquiries. He has made enquiries not only within the State, but also outside in Pollachi, through the Police of that station and he got the reply that the man is about to recover. It is a very dangerous thing to let loose Sheikannan once again to depredate on the public. It was with the greatest difficulty that he was caged. Because he was declared to be suffering from that sort of disease, is the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer going to recommend that he should be released? If he had done that, he would be doing a great dis-service to society. For if Sheikannan is let loose, he will again commit serious offences. Therefore it is very necessary that the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer should be cautious before he takes such a step. He is responsible not only to the Government but also to the public. Sheikannan had been preying upon the innocent week population of the State. So what we see is that the Chief Medical Officer was taking time to know whether that is an incurable disease or not. For that he has been making enquiries—making enquiries in the best way possible by getting reports and by seeing for himself whether any cure can be effected by means which are not known to him but which must be known to Ayurvedic system of treatment. It would be therefore an injustice to jump into the conclusion that the most recent case was brought to the General Hospital and the remote and chronic cases were left there because the Chief Medical Officer was carried away by considerations of the prisoner's status in society. The heinousness of the crime will aggravate his own responsibility to the Government and also to the public. When we find all these circumstances to exist we cannot agree with the conclusion that the Chief Medical Officer was biassed by any other motives, that might be ascribed to him by persons who have no knowledge of the entire history of the case. I should say that the Member for Pazhayaunur was asking the question and that question is answered as well as possible. The matter has been threshed out on the floor of this House as much as possible. By the discussion we had hitherto it is made clear that the Hon'ble Members of this House and the public had no adequate information about what had been

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going on. They must judge matters impartially, now they have got the full information before them. There is no reason for misunderstanding now.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Yesterday, Sir, you said that no Member will be allowed to speak for more than 5 minutes. This time-limit may be enforced so that we may not lose much time by unnecessary discussion.

President.—It is really so. It should be enforced.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—On a point of information. I want to know the number of days this patient was allowed to remain in the General Hospital and also whether the medical officer in charge of the jail or the Superintendent of Jails reported to the Government that the others should also be taken to the General Hospital with regard to this matter?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I shall give the information, so far as that matter is concerned. It was about the 7th of Kumbham that the Superintendent first reported that this convict may be taken over to the Hospital and the Government acted upon that. It was on the specific report of the Inspector-General of Prisons that this was acted upon. Later, immediately after the middle of Meenam, another report was received saying that there are a few more suffering from the same disease and that they may also be removed to the General Hospital. By the time, five to six weeks had elapsed after the first report. We thought that since no specific improvement had been reported it may be better to wait and see how far at least in that one case now under observation any specific improvement would be achieved. Then after six weeks of the actual removal of Kuriappan it was found that no appreciable result has been achieved and the Government thought that there was no further use of either transferring any more from there or keeping this prisoner here. Therefore he was also asked to be taken back. On the question of release that question has not been lost sight of by the Government. That point has been clearly taken into consideration and they were not released, because, in one case a person who was released on account of the very same disease became cured, committed another crime and was readmitted into the jail. That was brought to the notice of the Government by the jail authorities. We thought that it would be rather risky to let off persons from jail and especially those who have committed heinous crimes. Because, if one is going to be released, then all should be released, and no distinction can be made in that. Therefore, we thought it best to give them all as good a treatment as possible in the jail; and

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the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer was asked to visit and do the needful.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—How many years ago was one man released?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not know. Because this came to our knowledge from the report of the Superintendent of the Jails dated 3rd Thulam 1104. He says that one such prisoner who was released has come back to the jail after a few years in a better condition.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Then there are previous cases!

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—May be. I do not know.

President.—Shall we close this debate?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know from the Hon'ble the Secretary what is the date of the report of the Chief Medical Officer regarding the two hopeless cases which he was asked to report upon ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—15th April 1930. The former was on the 13th of January 1930.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—So three months' delay.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—One word of explanation for the delay. Because we do not know all the provisions in the *Jail Code*. There are two sections

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, no explanation was asked for. We only wanted to know the date. That is all.

President.—Let us have then Dr. A. R. Menon's final reply and close the matter.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, if I do not follow the footsteps of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer in replying to his speech, it should not be construed that it is due to my incapacity to use deliberate and vituperative language, but it is due to my great respect to you who have shown me an amount of indulgence which I have appreciated and I do appreciate. (*Hear, hear*). In the first place this question was intended as a cut in the jail, and it was not addressed to the Medical Department at all. But yesterday the Chief Medical Officer got up and prefaced his speech by saying that he thought I would be called in question for my various utterances and irresponsibilities on Tuesday, but the Member seems to have a capacity to bring in Medical Department in any cut whatsoever. I fail to see why he should get up at all to answer the points that I raised because this question was addressed to the Government. I was very careful in saying Government, and personally I have not come to the stage when I take the Chief Medical Officer synonymous with the Government. I have not come to that stage yet. I thought that

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the proper person to answer this would be the Hon'ble the Secretary to the Diwan, because the charge is levelled against the Government and not against the Chief Medical Officer at all. I never called in question the capacity of the Chief Medical Officer in deciding the nature of the cases. But I called in question a certain policy of the Government that was pursued in showing what seems to be a differential treatment, what seems to be—I emphasise the word 'differential treatment'—in the eyes of the public, and I demanded an explanation why the most guilty, the blackest murderer that is housed in the Central Jail, the man who committed murder upon his own son-in-law and made a second attempt to finish the dirty work that he has already begun, should be brought to the General Hospital? You compare him to Sheikannan! Sheikannan is a gentleman! There are few in this House who can be compared with Sheikannan. You have to improve some of your qualities. Sheikannan is the man who sacrificed his liberty rather than desert his back-broken brother, and that is how you caught hold of him. There are not many even in this House who will sacrifice their liberty for the sake of a brother. Does anybody deny that statement? So there is no use of comparing Sheikannan with this murderer. Sheikannan never committed robbery, never committed rape, never committed murder. Sheikannan only robbed the rich and he never robbed the poor. He is in a way a Robinhood whom Englishmen glorify even to-day. That is the answer to that question.

Now I had addressed four questions. You cannot get over this by camouflaging the situation by telling me vitamine A vitamine B and C. You cannot get over that difficulty. I do not care about the vote of the House. I will address it again. If you are in a position to answer them, you just answer them. The question was, first why was it, as I said that the man who has committed such a heinous crime was liberated from jail when men with lesser crimes are lodged there? A kind of answer was given to me and it is for the general public to take it for what it is worth and see whether I am right or you are right. I asked that question; I asked did you consult your responsible officers before you took this step and if you did so, were there recommendations? That was the second question. For that also I could not get a good answer.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Who is the responsible officer the Member refers to?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The responsible Head of the Department, the Inspector of the Jail.

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It was on his report that it was done at the very outset.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Only one man was taken.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—On the 7th of Kumbham.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Did you get any other communication?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—In the middle of Meenam.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—As a matter of fact, an order was issued by the Government that such and such a prisoner should be transferred. Latter on, they made further recommendations, if I am right.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is right.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Government shut the door of mercy upon him. Why not merciful feelings be shown to the others? I got a reason, that may be true, that this person is a well-to-do man, the others are poor. I do not attribute anything to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. If the cap suits you, wear it. I don't say anything. In the process of evolution of this world there are certain periods in the history when certain qualities command respect. There were periods when physical ability commanded respect, then families commanded respect. Later on after a series of periods money commanded respect. Does the Government tell me that they treat both the rich and the poor alike? Does anyone do it except in theory? Yes, except in medical treatment, excepting Cochin Medical Department. There, there may be differences here, everybody from the Emperor to the begger is treated alike. Am I not justified in saying when money commands everything, that the fact that this person belongs to a well-to-do class might have unconscionably induced the Government? I do not attribute any motive. Why should you think that I attribute motives? That is the 2nd point. Then you said the patient was removed for experimental work to see whether anything can be done. Do you mean to tell me that a disease which has defied the cleverness and ingenuity of not only our medical officers but almost all medical men to-day, such a mystery could be solved within 2 months, that is, on account of the adjournment motion, that you were in a position to give an explanation for the redemption. You don't like it. I am sorry facts must be spoken.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I don't understand.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—You don't understand. I can't make you understand.

President.—Personal criticisms should be avoided. The only person that you should address is the President. You might address him as you but not any other person.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—If the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer cannot understand, I cannot make it plainer. Does the Government, does anybody think that a serious disease like this can be kept under observation and treated and definite results one way or the other, could be achieved in 2 months, or is it because that an adjournment motion was made?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Who said so?

President.—Take permission from me and talk. See how he kept his temper all the time.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Any amount of interruption is welcome. I hope I am in possession of the House. Would anybody think that such a disease which has defied the medical knowledge of the world could be observed and a definite conclusion could be arrived at even by the greatest medical officers in our hospital? It is inconceivable in my very very humble opinion with very very limited knowledge of the subject. Otherwise the only other explanation that I could offer is, the Government is as anxious to remove him as they were anxious to take him after the threatened adjournment motion in this House. That is my view. Immediately after the adjournment motion I know what took place, there was a further debate and the man was removed. I am sorry if my interference has done any injury to him. My only idea is to know why he was removed. I can honestly say intentionally. I have never done anything against the prisoners in the jail. What little I was able to do I have always done in their favour. It is only this invidious treatment upon other considerations than the consideration that the Government were pleased to offer to-day and which I am bound to accept, that prompted me to give this cut motion. It would be better as you said, Sir, where no motives were attributed, where there is no intention of attacking the Department, it would be wiser on the part of the Head of the Department, to keep himself cool, because in the exchange of passages both have found that each is capable of handling the other.

President.—I may say that I found considerable improvement to-day which you have kept up throughout. I had very great misgivings whether you would keep to it.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—He was thought to be incurable.

President.—I think it is time.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Only one more observation. The medical officer was good enough to give me a piece of advice in all seriousness that I have two mistresses, the medical and political. I entirely subscribe to the view and say that he has a jealous mistress and he should not play foul with another mis-

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tress. But unfortunately I entered into both these things and I have been trying both these ladies together as far as possible and my consolation when I go to bed everyday is that I have got two mistresses, politics and medicine on either side of the bed. (*Laughter*).

President.—You all seem to appreciate. But I could not follow. What is the ultimate result of this discussion? Do you want the vote of the House?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I may be given leave to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 4.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 40,517 for Jails.*

President.—Then your total, Mr. Salem You may move it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I rise to move the total omission of the allotment under Jails.

President.—This is only under the general policy.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is what I wrote on the back of the paper. I have not got anything against the Jail. That is only for the consistency of the policy, and that should not be lost sight of. Even the Jail authorities must move the Government towards reform.

President.—Any further speeches on the subject?

Motion put and agreed to.

President.—Let me not commit the mistake that I committed yesterday. Plese include my name also. I oppose the motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Poll, Sir.

The House divided:—*Ayes, 20; Noes 19, Neutrals 2.*

Ayes.

1	Mr.	I. E. Ambooken
2	,,	V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar
3	,,	A. L. Antony
4	,,	K. J. Antony
5	,,	K. Ayyappan
6	,,	A. Eachara Menon
7	Dr.	A. G. Menon
8	Mr.	A. S. Hariharа Ayyar
9	,,	E. Ikkanda Wariar
10	,,	K. P. Kannan Nayar
11	,,	P. Krishna Menon
12	,,	T. K. Nayar

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13 Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan
14 ,, A. K. Kunhu Moideen
15 ,, C. A. Kunjunni Raja
16 ,, K. Mohamed Seethi
17 ,, Ouseph Kundukulam
18 ,, T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar
19 Dr. A. R. Menon
20 Mr. A. B. Salem

Noes.

1 Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon
2 ,, C. Barton Wright
3 ,, P. C. Chanchan
4 ,, V. K. Kochunni Menon
5 ,, S. S. Koder
6 ,, T. K. Krishna Menon
7 ,, T. M. Krishna Menon
8 ,, K. Krishna Pisharodi
9 Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai
10 Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon
11 Mrs. G. Pavitran
12 Mr. T. V. Ramalinga Ayyar
13 ,, I. Raman Menon
14 Rama Varmha Tampuran
15 Mr. K. Ramunni Menon
16 ,, A. Sankara Menon
17 Dr. E. A. Veigas
18 Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese
19 President

Neutrals.

1 Mr. Thomas Manjuran
2 ,, C. J. Mathew

President.—20 for, 19 against and 2 neutrals. Motion carried.

7. XI—Jails—Cranganur—Rs. 350.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I rose to move for an allotment of Rs. 350 under '11 Jails—Cranganur.'

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Sir, on a point of information, I would like to know whether any facilities are provided for in the matter of prayers in jails. In British jails they do. I just want to know for the sake of information.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I have no information upon that.

Demand put and agreed to.

8 XVII—Police—Rs. 2,10,913.

President.—The next demand is Police.

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Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for the grant of Rs. 2,10,913 for the working of my Department for the coming year. Although I am sure this demand is not likely to get better treatment at the hands of the House than the previous ones moved by my colleagues, I think it my duty to give a word of explanation for the increase in my demand for the next year. The increase is due on account of the enhancement in the pay of forces as per orders on the Special Finance Committee s report and the entertainment of an Inspector and two Head constables for the proposed Hill Palace Police Station. Another reason is due to the increase under T. A. because all the Inspectors became entitled to 2nd class allowance and the daily allowance of constables has been raised from 6 annas to 8 annas. Provision is also made for the purchase of three fire-engines, one for Kunnamkulam another for Trichur and third for Chittur. A sum of Rs. 2,088 as local allowance to constables working in Ernakulam and Mattancheri is also provided in the coming budget. These are the main reasons for the increase in the demand made for the next year as compared with the figures of the revised budget of this year. With this explanation I beg to move the grant.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. P. C. Chanchan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,083 for Police Proper—A by Re. 1.*

As it was not moved, the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 2.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,437 for Police Proper—Office Establishment by Re. 1.*

President.—No. 2, Mr. C. J. Mathew. He is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 3.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,25,412 for Executive Force by Re. 1.*

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 4.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,25,412 for Executive Force by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have tabled this cut for the purpose of certain information which I have already got from the Hon'ble Member for Police, and there is nothing more to be said on the matter. I have got the information I have wanted.

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The motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 5.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,100 for clothing by Re, 1.*

As the Member was absent, the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 6.

Mr P. Kumaran Ezuthassan.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 14,100 under Demand XVII—by Re. 1.*

As the Member was absent, the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 7.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,710 for temporary establishment by Re. 1.*

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Sir, I have moved this cut to bring to the notice of the Government certain matters in connection with the motor traffic between Travancore and Cochin from Kottayam to Ernakulam. In the first place I want to bring to the notice of the Government one fact viz., the non-recognition in Cochin of the brake certificates issued by the Travancore and British authorities to the buses by the respective Governments. These brake certificates are not being accepted here. The efficient condition of the buses has certainly to be secured. There is no doubt about that. And for this purpose we have rules for insisting upon buses taking brake certificates. In Travancore and British India the same rules are provided for and the buses take out brake certificates from the respective Governments. It is not proper that we should compel them again to take out brake certificates from our officers. We have only to see that the buses are kept in good condition. It is not to be utilised as a means of making money. We have only to see that the buses are in good condition. If they take out brake certificates issued either by the Travancore Durbar or by British Officers we have to take it as a proper certificate and with respect to buses going from Cochin to Travancore or British the same rules will have to be followed. I beg to submit that you should report to the authorities and see whether any adjustment with respect to this matter can be made. Another point which I wanted to bring to the notice of the House is that formerly buses coming from Kottayam were entering the town through the southern toll gate and coming along the Chittur road and proceeding by that road to the Railway Station. But for the last 4 or 5 months that practice has changed and now buses have to go through another road through Vyttila and this causes not a little inconvenience.

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President.—Palarivattom road.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Yes, Sir.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—This causes not a little inconvenience to the owners of buses as well as the passengers. The bus owners will not be able to take on passengers from the town on their way back to Kottayam nor will they able to let down passengers on the way in the town itself. This causes much inconvenience and annoyance both to the owners of buses as well as to the passengers. It might be said that that is a crowded road, and there is a school there and so much traffic cannot be allowed on that road. But as far as I could see there has been no occasion hitherto for any accident or any complaint on that ground. We find also that in another place for example at Irinjalakkuda, in the road from the Police Station as far as the temple there are several buses running a number of times and that road is much more congested than the Chittur road. No such prohibitory order is issued to buses plying along that road. Therefore my submission is we have to look to the convenience of the public and not prohibit buses running altogether but see that sufficient safeguards are inserted. Speed limit might be fixed so that no accidents might occur. There are some complaints with respect to the inequitable distribution of timings for buses and other matters. I say that these matters could be taken note of by the Government for their careful consideration.

President.—Do you want the motion to be discussed ?

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanaba Ayyar.—Yes. Sir.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Yesterday a couple of bus owners came to me saying that they were labouring under another difficulty. It seems that a union has been formed here under the auspices of the Commissioner of Police and, unless they form a member of that, they will not be given time according to them. They were losers and certain gentlemen of the place have formed it at their cost. If it were so, it was high time that the Government considered this matter.

Dr. A. R. Menon.— There is another point in connection with this. I think it is very unjust to collect taxes from the buses without allowing them to run through the road. The presumption is that, when the tax is collected, they will be allowed to use the public roads. The Municipal Council of Ernakulam collects toll and asks them to stand within half a mile out of the Municipal Town. They are not allowed to proceed further. Either don't collect taxes or allow them to go through the roads. This is a special feature of the Municipality. But they are not allowed to go anywhere. All the Municipal

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roads are closed. There is only one road that is opened to them.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is it a fact, Sir ?

President.—The Municipal Councils should allow. It is under the control of the Council.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—But the trunk roads are of the Government. Why not allow them to go through them.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Only as regards maintenance.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—In one part of the main road there will be a toll.

President.—Can you throw light upon this Municipal question ?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—It is a fact that, though the Ernakulam Municipal Council collects the toll, the buses are not allowed to use 99% of the roads within the Municipality. It is only a bit of one road that is allowed to be used by them.

President.—They come there at Perumanur.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—In fact this complaint refers only to the buses that are compelled to use the Palarivattam road. Personally speaking I also agree with the Hon'ble Member for Trichur in saying that it is an injustice. But then, if the Councils are allowed to regulate their own affairs to a greater degree, I think more equitable considerations will prevail, now for certain things we are allowed to use our own discretion, for others we are not allowed to do the same. Therefore, this disparity if I may put it so, of the dual control that is now enforced in more instances than one lies at the root of all these inconsistent and inequitable procedures.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—What has it to do with this ?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—If this rule is adopted for Chittur also persons going from Palghat to Pollachi or Kozhinjampara will have to get down at eastern toll gate, and carry their samans for four miles to reach northern toll. They will have to engage a cooly or a car. This contagion if allowed might spread from one Municipality to other Municipality. Especially where there is a distance of about three or four miles between the toll gates, it will be a great hardship to the public. I am not speaking about the police interference. The Municipal authorities are doing a wrong thing. They should not be allowed to close the roads. Who close the roads, Sir, please ?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—The Police Commissioner.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—The Municipal Councillor says that it is the Police Commissioner and the Police Commissioner says that it is the Municipal Council.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I shall explain.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—After hearing the Government side we shall reply.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.— I have to say a word with reference to Irinjalakkuda. One bus is given the right of carrying passengers from Irinjalakkuda to the Irinjalakkuda Railway Station. There are other buses also plying past to Irinjalakkuda Railway Station. One of these buses taking passengers via.,Kodakara and Nellayi to Trichur starts just 5 minutes or so before the one for the Railway Station leaves and that bus which leaves earlier takes all the passengers to the Railway Station.

President.—You say differential treatment.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—Some mistake in preparing the time-table. The earlier bus takes passengers to the Railway Station charging only 3 annas per passenger. The other bus which is allowed to go 5 minutes or so later charges 4 annas. So the earlier bus takes all the passengers, and the other bus gets no passengers. The difference is only 5 minutes or so. Some arrangement must be made by the Police Commissioner to set it right.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ബസ്സുകൾ ടെയ്ണിനു വെള്ളിയിൽ നിർത്തുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു അതിൽ യാത്ര ചെയ്യുന്നവർക്കു ഉണ്ടാകാവുള്ള ചില ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ എന്റെ അനുഭവത്തിലുള്ളതു പറയാം. അവിനാശിനു എറണാകുളത്തേക്കു ബസ് ചാർജ്ജർ ണ.കൊടുത്താൽ മതി. ഇപ്പോൾ ബസ്സു നിർത്തുന്ന സ്ഥലത്തു നിന്നും പോട്ടകടവിലെത്തണമെങ്കിൽ രക്ഷക്കു വേറെ നാലണകൂടെ ചിലവാക്കാതെ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. നേരെ അളുവായിൽനിന്നും പോകയാണെങ്കിൽ കൂടുതൽ ചിലവിനിടവരില്ല. ഇങ്ങിനെ ആളുകളുടെ പണം വെറുതെ നഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതു് സങ്കടമാണു്. എന്നാൽ അതു രക്ഷിക്കാരെ രക്ഷിക്കാനുള്ള ഒരു പ്രസ്ഥാനമാണെങ്കിൽ ഞാൻ അതു സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—എത്താണ്ടു അഞ്ചുകൊല്ലത്തോളമായി ബസ്സു സർവ്വീസു് തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടു്. ആദ്യം രണ്ടുകൊല്ലക്കാലം വലിയ തിരക്കൊന്നുംകൂടാതെ നടത്തിയിരുന്നു. മൂന്നുകൊല്ലമായി പാതയിൽനിന്നു ബസ്സുഒഴിഞ്ഞസമയം ഇല്ലെന്നു പോലീസ കമ്മീഷണർക്കു നല്ലവണ്ണം അറിയാം. പോലീസ ചാർജ്ജചെയ്യുന്ന കേസ്സുകൾതന്നെ നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ, അധികവും ബസ്സിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുവയായിരിക്കും. ഇതിനൊരു സമാധാനം വരുത്തണ

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മെന്നു കഴിഞ്ഞ ബഡ്ജറ്റിലും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എത്രതന്നെ ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടും അതിനൊരു നിവാരണം കാണുന്നില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇരിഞ്ഞാലക്കുടെ മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ഒരു മിനിട്ടിനുള്ളിൽതന്നെ മറ്റൊരു ബസ്സു ഓടിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ലൈസൻസു കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇങ്ങിനെയായാൽ ആപത്പാടിത്തത്തിനു വലിയ തിരക്കും വഴക്കും ഉണ്ടാകും. ഒരുത്തക്കും ശരിയായി യാത്രക്കാരെ കിട്ടുകയുമില്ല. ഇത്തരത്തിൽ കഴിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടുകൊല്ലമായി നഷ്ടമല്ലാതെ യാതൊരു ഗുണവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നില്ല. ഇതെല്ലാം കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലത്തിലും പറഞ്ഞു. ശരിയാണെന്നു കമ്മീഷണർ സമ്മതിക്കുകയുംചെയ്തു. ഒരു ലയിനിൽതന്നെ ബസ്സു് ഓടാൻ വേണ്ട യാത്രക്കാരെ ഉള്ളുവെങ്കിൽ അതിൽ കൂടുതൽ പെർമിറ്റു കൊടുക്കരുതു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ആറു ബസ്സു് ഓടേണ്ടതായ ലയിനിൽ ഏഴു -ം അതിലധികവും ബസ്സു് വന്നാലും ടൈം കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്.

പ്രസിഡൻറു്.—അതു പാടില്ലല്ലൊ!

മസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ—അതു പാടില്ലാത്തതാണെങ്കിലും പോലിസുകമ്മീഷണർ ചെയ്യുവരുന്നുണ്ടു്. അദ്ദേഹം ഇതിനൊരു നിവൃത്തിമാർഗ്ഗവും കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഞാൻഇതിലേക്കു 10,000 രൂ ചിലവുചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നവനാണു്. നഷ്ടമല്ലാതെ ഒരുകാര്യവും അടായമില്ല. എനിക്കു ഇതൊക്കെകളവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയുണ്ടായേക്കാം. നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാത്തവരുടെ കാര്യമാണു് കഷ്ടാൽകഷ്ടം. ഈ സർവ്വീസു വന്നതിൽപിന്നെ നശിച്ചവർ വളരെ ഉണ്ടു്. ഇതിനൊക്കെ കാരണമെന്താണു്? നഷ്ടംകിട്ടാൻ വഴി കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാനല്ല പറയുന്നതു്. ബസ്സു് ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കാൻ മാർഗ്ഗം വല്ലതും ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു നോക്കണം. കൊച്ചി—എറണാകുളം കടത്തുബോട്ടുകാർക്കു ഒരു പൈ എങ്കിലുംനഷ്ടമുള്ളതായിതോന്നുന്നില്ല. ആ സർവ്വീസ്സു് റെഗുലേറ്റുചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതുപോലെ ബസ്സിൻറെ കാര്യത്തിലും ചെയ്യാം. ചാർജ്ജും സമയവുംമറ്റുമെൻറുതന്നെ തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്താം. നമുക്കു പുതുതായി ഒന്നു കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചു ചെയ്യാനുള്ള വാസനയില്ല. ഒരുത്തൻ ഒന്നുചെയ്യുന്നതുകണ്ടാൽ എല്ലാവരും അതു ചെയ്യുകയായി. ഇതാണു് നമ്മുടെ ഇടയിലുള്ള ഒരു പ്രധാന ദോഷം. ഒരുത്തൻ ഒരു ബസ്സു വാങ്ങിച്ചു ഓടിച്ചു വല്ല ആദായവും എടുക്കുന്നതുകണ്ടാൽ എല്ലാവരും അതിലേക്കു പുറപ്പെട്ടുകഴിഞ്ഞു. കുറച്ചൊക്കെ ആയാൽ തരക്കേടില്ല. റോഡിൽ സ്ഥലമില്ലാത്ത വിധത്തിലായാൽ ഒരുത്തനും ഒന്നുംകിട്ടാതാകും. എല്ലാം നഷ്ടത്തിലായി കലാശിക്കയും ചെയ്യും. ആളുകൾ നശിക്കാൻ കമ്പനിക്കാർ ചില ഒത്താശകൾ ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കാറുണ്ടു്. 1000 രൂപാ മുതൽ 5000 രൂപാവരെ കൈവിലക്കുള്ള ബസ്സുകൾ 100 രൂപാ ആദ്യത്തിൽ കൊടുത്താൽ കിട്ടും. പിന്നീടു വാക്കിയുള്ളതു് തവണതവണയായി അടച്ചു ഇവർ നശിക്കണം. മിക്കവാറും ഈ കടംവീട്ടാൻകിട്ടാതെ

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തന്നെ പലരും നശിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്- ഞാൻ ഇതിനെപറ്റി മിവാൻജി അവർകളോടും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്".

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്".—ഇതിനൊരു പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗം എന്താണ്? അതു പറയുന്നില്ലല്ലൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ നായർ.—ആദ്യം സങ്കടംഎത്രയാണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞുകേൾപ്പിച്ചിട്ട് പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗം പറഞ്ഞുവെങ്കിൽ അല്ലെ കായ്മുള്ളു.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട".—സങ്കടം വലുതായിട്ടുള്ളതാണെന്നു മനസ്സിലായി.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—എന്നാൽ അതിനുള്ള നിവാരണമാർഗ്ഗം പറയാം. ഓരോ ലയനിലും നഷ്ടംകൂടാതെ ഓടുവാനുള്ള ബസ്സുകളുടെ എണ്ണം തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്തുക. അതു പോലീസ് കമ്മീഷനർ വേണം തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്തുവാൻ. അതുയും എണ്ണത്തിനെ പെർമിറ്റുകൊടുക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളു. നിശ്ചിത എണ്ണത്തിൽ കൂടുതൽ ബസ്സിനു പെർമിറ്റു കൊടുകയില്ലെന്നായാൽ പിന്നെയാരും ആ ലയനിൽ കൂടി ഓടിക്കാൻ ബസ്സു വാങ്ങിക്കയില്ല. വെള്ളത്തിൽകൂടി സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്ന ബോട്ടുകൾക്കു,—എറണാകുളം കൊച്ചി കടത്തിനു—ലേലംവിളിക്കുകയാണ പതിവു". വെള്ളത്തിനുമീതെ യാത്രചെയ്യുന്ന വാഹനങ്ങൾക്കു ഇങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യാമെങ്കിൽ കരയിൽകൂടിപോകുന്ന വാഹനങ്ങൾക്കും അങ്ങിനെചെയ്യാൻ ഒരു വിരോധവുമില്ല. മോണോപ്പളി കൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു". മോണോപ്പളി ലേലംവിളിച്ചൊടെണ്ടർ അവശ്യപ്പെട്ടൊ കൊടുക്കാം.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്".—ഏതിനെല്ലാമാണ മോണോപ്പളി?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ബസ്സുകൾക്കുമാത്രം. മറ്റു കാറുകൾക്കൊന്നും വേണ്ടാ. Maximum charge, Minimum number of trips ഇതുകൾ രണ്ടും ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു നിശ്ചയിക്കുക. ട്രാഫിക്ക് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു ശരിയായി ഈ കാര്യങ്ങൾ നോക്കട്ടെ. അങ്ങിനെയായാൽ നഷ്ടംകൂടാതെകഴിയും. ഏല്പിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്ന ആൾക്കു മുന്നു കൊല്ലത്തേക്കു മോണോപ്പിളി കൊടുക്കയും വേണം. അങ്ങിനെയായാൽ അവർക്കും നഷ്ടംവരുന്നതല്ല. മോണോപ്പളികൊണ്ടു ലഭിക്കുന്ന സംഖ്യ ചിലവാക്കിത്തന്നെറോഡുകളും നന്നാക്കാം. ബസ്സ ഓടിയിട്ടാണ് റോഡുകൾ ചീത്തയാകുന്നതെന്നു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു പറയുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇങ്ങിനെയാക്കിയാൽ ബസ്സു ഓടുന്ന റോഡു നന്നാകാനുള്ള ചിലവു ബസ്സുകൊണ്ടുതന്നെ കിട്ടുന്നതുമാണ. ഒരു കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ൪൦,൦൦൦ രൂപാവരെ കിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ളതിനു സംശയമില്ല. ഇതു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു നല്ലവണ്ണം ആലോചിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിയിൽ വരുത്തേണ്ടതാണ്

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്".—ബ്രിട്ടീഷിലും മറ്റും ഇപ്പോൾ ടോൾ വേണ്ടെന്നു വയ്ക്കുകയല്ലെ? ഇവിടെയും വേണ്ടെന്നു വെച്ചാലൊ?

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മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ടോളിനും ഇതിനും യാതൊരു ബന്ധവുമില്ല.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I put a question to the Hon'ble Member through you, Sir?

President.—You speak in Malayalam.

Mr. A. B. Salem —What is the harm in speaking in English, Sir?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—You know Malayalam.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. ബി. സേലം.—കോയമ്പത്തൂരിൽനിന്നോ, പൊള്ളാച്ചിയിൽനിന്നോ ഒരു വണ്ടി തുടിവപേരുർക്കു വരണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുക. മോണോപ്പളി കൊടുത്തുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ കോയമ്പത്തൂരിൽനിന്നും തുടിവപേരുക്കു ഒരു വണ്ടി വരികയാണെങ്കിൽ എന്തുചെയ്യും?

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—മോണോപ്പളി കൊടുത്തുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ പുറമെ നിന്നു വരുന്നവർ ആ അതിർത്തിയിൽ നില്ക്കണം. എന്നിട്ടു ആളുകൾ ഇറങ്ങി ഇവിടത്തെ വണ്ടിയിൽ കയറേണ്ടിവരും.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. ബി. സേലം.—മോണോപ്പളി കൊടുത്തുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഉണ്ടാകാവുന്ന ഒരു (ഡിഫിക്കൾറ്റി) വിഷമതയെകാണിച്ചുകൊടുക്കാനാണു് എന്റെ ശ്രമം. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽനിന്നും വണ്ടികൾ വരുമ്പോൾ അവിടെ നില്ക്കണം. എന്നിട്ടു ഉഭയംപേരും വന്നു് വണ്ടി കയറണം എന്നല്ലേ പറയുന്നതു്?

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്,—ഉടമ്പടി വേണ്ടിവന്നേക്കാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. ബി. സേലം.—എനിക്കു വിരോധമില്ല, ആളുകളുടെ രക്ഷക്കുവേണ്ടി എന്തുചെയ്യുന്നതും എനിക്കു വളരെ സന്തോഷമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണു്. പക്ഷെ ഈ ബസ്സുകൾ ഓരോ മൈൽ ഓടുമ്പോൾ അതിയും പണം പുറത്തുപോകയാണു് ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. അതിനോടു യോജിക്കാൻ എനിക്കു നിവർത്തിയില്ല. പക്ഷെ എന്തുചെയ്യാം.—അതിന്റെ ടയറാകട്ടെ, മിഷ്യൻസാകട്ടെ ഒന്നും ഇവിടെ ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു് നിവർത്തിയില്ലല്ലൊ. ഒരു ബസ്സു നാം എടുത്താൽ അതിയും പണം വെറുതെ പുറത്തുപോകയാണു്. ആ കാരണത്താൽ തന്നെ ആളുകൾ നശിക്കുന്നു. അതു വാങ്ങിച്ചിട്ടും ഓടിച്ചിട്ടുപോലും ആളുകൾ നശിക്കുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ തീച്ചയായും അതിനു തക്കതായ ഒരു പരിഹാരംചെയ്യേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. അതിനുള്ള വഴികൾ ഉടനെ ആലോചിക്കണം. പക്ഷെ മിസ്റ്റർ നായർ പറഞ്ഞ വഴി മാത്രമെ ഇതിനു പരിഹാരമായിട്ടുള്ളൂ എന്നും നോക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്ന ഒരു നിർദ്ദേശം ഇവിടെ സമർപ്പിക്കാം. ഒരു വഴിക്കു പത്തു ബസ്സിനുമാത്രമെ ട്രാഫിക്കുള്ളു എന്നുവന്നാൽ പത്താളിനെ ഒരു കൊല്ലം ആ ലയിനിൽ ലൈസൻസ്സു കൊടുക്കുകയുള്ളൂ എന്നു വയ്ക്കണം. പത്തിൽകൂടുതൽ ആളിനുലൈസൻസ്സുകൊടുക്കുകയില്ലെന്ന നിബ്ബന്ധ

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വുംവേണം, അപ്രകാരമായാൽ ആ പത്താളിനും കാലക്ഷേപത്തി നുതക്കവണ്ണം വല്ല ആദായവും കിട്ടിക്കൊള്ളും.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—അങ്ങിനെ നിശ്ചയിച്ചു ഒരാളിനെ എല്പിക്കണമെന്നല്ലെ മിസ്റ്റർ നായർ പറഞ്ഞത്?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. ബി. സേലം.—ഒരാളിനു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനെ ഞാൻ ശക്തിപൂർവ്വം പ്രതിഷേധിക്കയാണു. മേനോപ്പള്ളി കൊടുത്താൽ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരാളിനെ കിട്ടുകയുള്ളു. പത്തുപേക്കു ലൈസൻസു കൊടുക്കുകയുള്ളുവെന്നുവന്നാൽ പത്തുപേക്കു അതുകൊണ്ടു കാലക്ഷേപമാർഗ്ഗമായി. അതാണു നാം പ്രധാനമായി ആലോചിക്കേണ്ട ഒരു കാര്യം. ലേലത്തിനു വന്നുകയറി നശിച്ചു ജനങ്ങൾ വളരെ ഉണ്ടു. പണ്ടത്തെ പുകയില ലേലംകൊണ്ടു നശിച്ച ജനം കുറച്ചൊന്നുമല്ല. ആളുകളെ രക്ഷിക്കാനാണു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു നിയമം സൃഷ്ടിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ, ജനങ്ങൾ നശിക്കാതിരിക്കണമെന്നാണു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശമെങ്കിൽ, കുത്തക കൊടുക്കുന്നതുമാത്രമല്ല ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലുള്ള മറ്റു വഴികൾ വല്ലതുംകൂടി ഉണ്ടോ എന്നു ഗാഢമായി ചിന്തിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കേണ്ട ഭാരം ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനുള്ളതാണു. അതേസമയം, ഒരാളിനെ ഏല്പിച്ചു സ്വത്തുകാരനാക്കുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ പത്തുപേരെ എല്പിച്ചു കാലക്ഷേപമാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കി കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണു സാധുസംരക്ഷണം ചെയ്യേണ്ട ഒരു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ കൃത്യമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഉപദേശിക്കുന്നു.

പ്രസിഡണ്ടു.—ലൈസൻസിനു പത്തിൽകൂടുതൽ അളുകൾ വന്നാലൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. ബി. സേലം.—ആദ്യംവരുന്ന പത്തുപേക്കു കൊടുക്കണം കുത്തക എടുപ്പാടുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽനിന്നെല്ലാം അതു എടുത്തുകളയാമെന്നാണു എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. അതു ഒരാളെ മാത്രം നന്നാക്കാനുള്ള ഒരു വിദ്യയാണു. പിന്നെ ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള വ്യവസായങ്ങളിൽ ഏർപ്പെടാൻ ആളില്ലെന്നു വരിക, അതുതന്നെ ആവശ്യമായിത്തീരുക എന്നു വരുന്ന സന്ദർഭങ്ങളിൽ മേനോപ്പള്ളിയെക്കുന്നതിനെ ആക്ഷേപിക്കാനില്ല. എന്നാൽ അതിലേക്കു അധികം അളുകൾ തയാറായിവന്നാൽ ആ മെനോപ്പള്ളി എല്ലാം കളയണം. അതാണു നല്ല നയം. Is it not a bad taste? വേണമെങ്കിൽ ഒരു ഇംഗ്ലീഷ് മണിപ്രവാളം ഇരുന്നാകൊള്ളട്ടെ (ചിരി) ഒരാളിനുമാത്രം കുത്തക കൊടുക്കുന്ന നയത്തെ ഞാൻ എതിർക്കുന്നുവെന്നു ഒരിക്കൽകൂടി പറയുന്നു. ബ്രസ്സ് എടുപ്പാടു നാട്ടിലെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു, ഇയാമ്പാറ, ഭക്ഷണമാണെന്നാകുന്നു തീയൽചെമ്പുവീണാലിടുന്നതുപോലെ ആകുന്നു. രക്ഷിക്കാൻ മനസ്സുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെചെയ്താൽ വിരോധമില്ല. പക്ഷെ അതു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ഇതു മാത്രമെ രക്ഷാമാർഗ്ഗമായിട്ടുള്ളൂ എന്നുകൂടി ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടുവേണം.

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Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—May I know, Sir, whether there is any restriction in the Motor Vehicles Regulation with regard to the number of buses that might be allowed for a particular road?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—It is a matter of discretion.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—The suggestion made by the Member for Pazhayannur was brought to the notice of the Economic Development Committee by the Motor Bus Union of Irinjalakkuda more than once, and the matter has been referred to the Government for orders.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The understanding is that you should speak in Malayalam.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—That applies only to the Jewish Member.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എം. സീതി.—പഴയന്നൂർ മെംബർ ഇവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള നിർദ്ദേശം കൊച്ചി ധനവർദ്ധന സംഘത്തിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നതായി ഓർക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇരിങ്ങാലക്കുട മോട്ടോർ ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ഒരു യോഗം ഒന്നിലധികം പ്രാവശ്യംകൂടി ഈ സംഗതിയെപ്പറ്റി ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിക്കയുണ്ടായി. ഈ വഴിത്താരയിൽ ബസ്സിന്റെ എണ്ണവും യാത്രയും ചുരുക്കി ഒരു നിവാരണം ഉണ്ടാക്കികൊടുക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യത്തെപ്പറ്റിയാണ് അവർ തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തിയതെന്നാണ് എന്റെ ഓർമ്മ. ഇതു ഗൌരവതരമായ ഒരു സംഗതിയാണെന്നു ഇക്കണോമിക്ക് ഡവലപ്പ്മെണ്ടു് കമ്മിറ്റിയിൽ വെച്ചു ഞാനും പറകയുണ്ടായി. ഞാൻ ബസ്സിനെപ്പറ്റി അനുഭവമുള്ള ആളല്ല. ബോട്ടിന്റെ കാര്യത്തിൽ നല്ലവണ്ണം അനുഭവമുള്ള ആളാണ്. ബസ്സിനെപ്പോലെ അതു ഉപദ്രവമുള്ള ഒന്നുതന്നെയാണ് ബോട്ടു സർവ്വീസ്സും. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ബസ്സുകൾക്കു മാത്രമല്ല വെള്ളത്തിലൂടെ പോകുന്ന ബോട്ടുകളുടെ കാര്യത്തിലും ഈ നിർദ്ദേശം പ്രായോഗികമാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. കൊച്ചി കോട്ടപ്പുറം ലെയിനെപ്പോലെ ഇത്ര അധികം ബോട്ടുകളുള്ള സ്ഥലം വേറെ കാണുമോ എന്നുതന്നെ സംശയം എറണാകുളത്തും കൊച്ചിയിലും നിന്നു പതിനഞ്ചു പതിനാറു ബോട്ടുകൾ ദിവസംപ്രതി സർവ്വീസ് നടത്തുന്നുണ്ട്. എറണാകുളത്തു നിന്നാരംഭിക്കുവേണ്ടിയാണ് 12 മൈൽ ബോട്ടു ഓടിക്കുന്നതു്. പഴയന്നൂർ മെംബർ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതുപോലെ പണനഷ്ടം വന്നിട്ടുള്ള അവസ്ഥകൾ ഇക്കൂട്ടത്തിലും പലരുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ കുത്തക കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് എന്റെ മാന്യ സ്നേഹിതൻ യുവാവായ മെംബർ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെയുള്ള വിഷമതയുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു് ഞാൻ സംശയിക്കുന്നു. റയിൽവേയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഒരു ക്ലിപ്തവും വ്യവസ്ഥയും ഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് ഒരസൌകര്യവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നില്ല അതുപോലെ ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥയും ക്ലിപ്തവും ബസ്സിന്റെയും

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ബോട്ടിന്റെയും കായ്ത്തലും ചെയ്യുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്ക് വലുതായ അസൌകര്യങ്ങളൊന്നും ഉണ്ടാകാനിടയില്ല. പൊതുജന സൌകര്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി പരിശ്രമിക്കുന്ന ആളുകൾക്ക് നഷ്ടം വരാതിരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ക്ലിപ്തപ്പെടുന്ന കായ്ത്തൽ മറിച്ചാകുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. പക്ഷേ മോണോപ്പള്ളി പ്രായോഗികമല്ലെന്നു ഒരഭിപ്രായവും ഇവിടെ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതു സാധിക്കാത്തപക്ഷം എണ്ണം ചുരുക്കുന്ന കായ്മെങ്കിലും പ്രായോഗികമാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു പഴയന്നൂർ മെംബറിന്റെ നിർദ്ദേശത്തെ ഞാൻ പിന്താങ്ങുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അനൂക്കൻ.—ഈ വിഷയത്തെക്കുറിച്ചു ഇതിനുമുമ്പു സംസാരിച്ച ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെമ്പറന്മാരിൽ ആരുടേയും അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു ഞാൻ യോജിക്കുന്നില്ല. പഴയന്നൂർമെമ്പറിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം ബസ്സുകാർക്കുണ്ടാകുന്നനഷ്ടത്തിനു" എന്തെങ്കിലും പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗംകണ്ടുപിടിക്കണമെന്നാണ്. അതിലേക്കു അദ്ദേഹം കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള പദ്ധതി മൂലം പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കുവരാവുന്ന നഷ്ടത്തേയും അസൌകര്യത്തെയും പരിഗണിക്കുന്ന പക്ഷം ബസ്സുടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു ഇപ്പോൾ ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നു പറയുന്ന നഷ്ടം അത്ര ഗൌരവതരമായ ഒന്നല്ലെന്നാണ എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ഇപ്പോൾ ബസ്സു നടത്തുന്ന ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ നിലതന്നെ പണ്ടത്തേതിൽനിന്നു വളരെവ്യത്യാസപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആദ്യകാലത്തു അധികവും പണക്കാരായിരുന്നു ബസ്സു നടത്തിയിരുന്നത്. പണക്കാരാകുമ്പോൾ അവരുടെ സ്ഥിതിക്കു അനുസരണമായിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു വലിയ ലാഭം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. എങ്കിലെ ഡ്രൈവർമാർക്കും ക്ലീനർമാർക്കും കണ്ടക്ടർമാർക്കും ഒക്കെ ശമ്പളംകൊടുത്തു അവക്കതിൽ ലാഭം നിശ്ചയിക്കാൻ തരമുള്ളു. കാലാന്തരത്തിൽ ബസ്സുകളുടെ ആധിക്യത്താൽ അവക്കുള്ള ലാഭം ചുരുങ്ങിയതോടുകൂടി പണക്കാരായിട്ടുള്ള പലരും ഈ ജോലി ഉപേക്ഷിച്ചു. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇടത്തരക്കാരായിട്ടുള്ളവരാണ്. അതു നടത്തുന്നതിൽ അധികവും. ഡ്രൈവർമാരും മറ്റുംതന്നെയാണ ഇപ്പോൾ ബസ്സുകളുടെ ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർ. അങ്ങിനെ ആയതോടുകൂടി വലിയ പണക്കാർക്കിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ലാഭം അവർക്കു ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു നഷ്ടമെന്നു പറയുന്നുവെന്നാണ എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ രീതി വ്യത്യാസപ്പെടുത്തി പഴയന്നൂർ മെമ്പറിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം സ്വീകരിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അതിൽ യാത്രചെയ്യുന്നവർക്കു വലിയ നഷ്ടവും വിഷമതകളും വന്നുകൂടും. അതു് ശരിയല്ലെന്നു ചെയ്യുന്ന ഒരുനീതിയാകും. അധികം ബസ്സുകൾ വന്നതാണ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നഷ്ടത്തിനു കാരണമെന്നു പറയുന്നു. അധികം ആളുകൾ തൊഴിലിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടതാണ നഷ്ടത്തിനു കാരണമെങ്കിൽ ഇങ്ങിനെ നഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്ന തൊഴിൽ ഇനിയും അനവധി കാണും. സാധാരണയായി കച്ചവടം

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തന്നെ നോക്കിയാൽ എത്രയോ പേർ നശിച്ചുപോകുന്നു. ഏതാനുംപേർക്കു ഗുണംവരുത്താൻവേണ്ടി വില കുറച്ചുപ്പെട്ടുത്തുക കച്ചവടം തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്തുക എന്നൊക്കെ വന്നാൽ അതു ഒരിക്കലും പ്രായോഗികമായ ഒരു നയമായിതീരുന്നതല്ല. ഇതിന്റെയെല്ലാം അനുഭവം പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കു നേരിട്ടുന്ന അസൌകര്യമായിരിക്കും. ഒരാളിനു മോണോപ്പളി കൊടുത്തുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ബസ്സുകളുടെ എണ്ണംകുറയും, ചാർജ്ജുകൂടും. സമയത്തിനു ബസ്സുകിട്ടുകയില്ല എന്നൊക്കെയായിത്തീരും.

രണ്ടാമത ലേലത്തുകയായി ബസ്സു ഉട മസ്ഥന്മാർ ഒരുതുക ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു കൊടുക്കെണ്ടിവരും. ആ തുക പൊതുജനങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും ഈടാക്കാതെ അവക്കു മുതലാകയില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു കൂലി കൂട്ടാതെ തരമില്ലെന്നാകും. മുസ്ലിംമെമ്പർ ഇതിനൊരുദാഹരണമായി റെയിൽവെ എടുപ്പാടിനെ ചൂണ്ടികാണിക്കയുണ്ടായി. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ചാലവിൽ കുറച്ചു റയിൽപാത ഉണ്ടാക്കാനും ഓടിക്കാനും ആളുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അപ്പോൾ അതിനും ഉണ്ടാകും അവസരം. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഏതു തൊഴിൽ ആയാലും അതിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കാൻ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കി കൊടുക്കുകയാണ വേണ്ടതു. ബസ്സുകളുടെ റണ്ണിംഗ് പവർ ലേലത്തിൽ വിൽക്കണമെന്നു പഴയന്നൂർ മെംബർ പറയുന്നു. എന്നാൽ അതു ലേലത്തിൽ വിൽക്കാനുള്ള അധികാരം ഗവമ്മേണ്ടിനില്ല. പുതുതായി ഒരു റെയിൽവെ തുറക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഏതെങ്കിലും കമ്പനിയേയെ S. I. R. നെയോ ഏല്പിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം അതിലേക്കു വേണ്ട ഭൂമികൊം റികമിസിഷൻ ചെയ്യും മറും ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു സഹായിച്ചാലും ആദായത്തിൽ ഒരു പങ്കു തരണമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ അതു കിട്ടുകയില്ല. യാതൊരു ഗവമ്മേണ്ടും റണ്ണിംഗ് പവർ വിറ്റു കേട്ടിട്ടില്ല. അതിനുള്ള അധികാരം ഗവമ്മേണ്ടിനില്ല. പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ പൊതുവേയുള്ള രക്ഷയെ കരുതാതെ ഏതാനുംപേരുടെ കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യത്തെ പരിഗണിച്ചു ഒരു നിയമം നടപ്പിലാക്കുക അക്ഷോപാഹ്യമാണ. അതിലേക്കു വേണമെങ്കിൽ ബസ്സുടമസ്ഥന്മാർതന്നെ സംഘടിച്ചു യൂണിയൻ ഫാറം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു പറയണം. അല്ലാതെ അതിലേക്കു സർക്കാരിനുകൂടി കുറെ പണം തരണമെന്നു വരുന്നതു, അതും പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ കഴുത്തിലായിത്തീരുന്നതാണ്. ഫാറം -ൽ കൊച്ചി ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു പുകയിലലേലം തുടങ്ങി. ആ പുകയില ലേലം വിളിച്ചു പൊളിഞ്ഞ ആളുകൾക്കു ഒരു കണക്കുമില്ല.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—സമ്പാദിച്ച ആളുകളും കുറച്ചുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്മൂക്കൻ.—പൊളിഞ്ഞ ആളുകളാണ അധികവും. ഈ മാതിരി മോണോപ്പളി കൊടുക്കാൻ ഗവമ്മേണ്ടിനു അധികാരവും അവകാശവും ഇല്ല. ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ,

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യാണ വേണ്ടത്. നഷ്ടം പരിഹരിക്കാൻ അവർതന്നെ യൂണിയനുകം ഉണ്ടാക്കട്ടെ.

The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and re-assembled at 3 p. m. when the Deputy President presided.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. എസ്സ്. ഹരിഹരയ്യർ.—ഇതേവരെ ബസ്സുകളുടെയും മറ്റും റണ്ണിംഗപ്പവർ ഒരു ഗവമ്മേണ്ടും വിറ്റിട്ടുള്ളതായി കേട്ടിട്ടില്ല. ഗവമ്മേണ്ടിനു അതിനു അധികാരവും ഇല്ലാത്തതാണ്; ബസ്സുകളം തമ്മിൽ കാംപിറേഷൻ ഉണ്ടെന്നു കരുതി പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ സൌകര്യത്തെ ഗണിക്കാതെ ചിലരുടെമാത്രം ഗുണത്തെ കരുതി ഒരു നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു നന്നല്ല. അതകൊണ്ടു ബസ്സുടമസ്ഥന്മാർതന്നെ ഒരു യൂണിയൻ ഫാറംചെയ്യേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യാൻ പറഞ്ഞാൽ മതി.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസഫ് പി. കണ്ടുകുളം.—ബസ്സു ഓടിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള അവകാശത്തെ ലേലംചെയ്യേണമെന്നു. ഇന്നു കാലത്തു പഴയന്നൂർ മെംബർ പറഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ ഗവമ്മേണ്ടിലേക്കു കുറച്ചു പണം കൂടിആയിപ്പോയി എന്നുള്ള വിചാരത്താൽ ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡെണ്ടവളരെ സന്തോഷത്തോടും ചിരിയോടുംകൂടി അതു കേൾക്കയുണ്ടായി. പണമെന്നുകേട്ടാൽ സന്തോഷവും ചിരിയും ഉണ്ടാവുക പതിവുതന്നെ. കൊച്ചി സംസ്ഥാനത്തെ പ്രജകളുടെ രക്ഷയല്ല പണത്തെയാണ ഗവമ്മേണ്ട കാംക്ഷിക്കുന്നതെന്നു ആ സന്തോഷവും ചിരിയുംകണ്ടപ്പോൾ ഒന്നുകൂടി നല്ലവണ്ണം മനസ്സിലായി. കൊച്ചി സംസ്ഥാനത്തു ഇതെവരെ വന്നിട്ടുള്ള നാശങ്ങളിൽ ഏറ്റവും വലുതു പുകയിലഷാപ്പു ലേലംവിളിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടു വന്നിട്ടുള്ളതാണു. ജനങ്ങളം നശിക്കണമെങ്കിൽ ബസ്സു ലേലംവിളിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടും തരക്കേടില്ല. നേരെമറിച്ചു ജനങ്ങളുടെ രക്ഷയെകരുതുന്ന ഗവമ്മേണ്ടാണെങ്കിൽ ഇതു ലേലം വിളിക്കരുതു. ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ഗുണത്തെയൊ ധനവാന്മാരുടെ സ്വത്തെയൊ അല്ല ദരിദ്രന്മാരായ സാധുജനങ്ങളുടെ രക്ഷയെ മുൻനിർത്തിയാണ ഗവമ്മേണ്ടുഓരോന്നു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കേണ്ടതു. ഞാൻ ഞങ്ങളുടെ കാര്യത്തിൽ—കോംകൃഷി—എത്രതന്നെ നിലവിളിച്ചിട്ടും ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു അതുകേട്ട ഭാവംപോലും നടിക്കുന്നില്ല. നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിൽ ഒന്നിറങ്ങി സഞ്ചരിച്ചുനോക്കുക. സാധുക്കൾ അന്യരെ ആശ്രയിക്കാതെ വല്ല കൂലിവേലയുംചെയ്തു വല്ല കാര്യംകൊണ്ടുവന്ന ലാഭമുള്ള കടകളിൽചെന്നവല്ല അരിയൊ, മുളകൊ, കടുകൊ വാങ്ങും. പുകയില ഷാപ്പുകാരന്റെ കടയിലും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കും ഇത്തരം സാമാനങ്ങൾ. വിലകൂടുതൽ എന്ന വ്യത്യാസംമാത്രമെയുള്ള. ലാഭമുള്ള കടകളിൽചെന്നു സാധുക്കൾ അരി, മുളക് വാങ്ങിച്ചിട്ടു പുകയില ഷാപ്പിൽ പുകയു-

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ലവാങ്ങാൻ ചെന്നാൽ മറ്റു സാമാനങ്ങളും അവിടെനിന്നുംവാങ്ങാത്തകാരണത്താൽ ആ സാധുക്കളും അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ദുരിതം ഈ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ആരെങ്കിലും അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടോ? അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽഅതിനു ഒരു നിവാരണം ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

ഡപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ വിഷയം പുകയില ഷാപ്പല്ല. ബസ്സിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണു പറയുന്നത്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേഫ് പി. കുണ്ടുകുളം.—അതേപ്രകാരംതന്നെ സാധുജനങ്ങളും അവരുടെ ഉപജീവനമാർഗ്ഗത്തിനുവേണ്ടി വല്ലവരുടേയും പടിവാതൽ കാത്തും വല്ലവരുടേയും സേവപിടിച്ചും വല്ലതും പണയംവെച്ചും ഒരു ബസ്സുവാങ്ങും. ഓടിക്കാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ലെന്നാകുമ്പോൾ അവരുടെ പിഴപ്പുമുട്ടി. കൺട്രാക്ടാക്കിയാൽ നാട്ടുകാരുടെ കടവും കഷ്ടതയും വർദ്ധിക്കയേയുള്ളു. അവരുടെ വണ്ടിക്കു കേടുവന്നാൽ ആളുകൾക്കു പോകാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ലാതാകും. സമയത്തിനു വണ്ടികിട്ടുകയില്ല. അതിനാൽ കുത്തക വിളിക്കുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം ചീത്തയാണു്. ഞാൻ അതിനെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. ഇഷ്ടമുള്ളവർ ബസ്സുവാങ്ങി ഓടിക്കട്ടെ. ഓരോ മണിക്കൂർ ഇടവിട്ടെ ബസ്സു ഓടിക്കാൻ അനുവദിക്കയുള്ളു എന്നു വെച്ചാൽ മതി. ആ കണക്കിനു് പകൽ സമയം ഫ്രീ ബസ്സു ഓടിക്കാം.

ഡിപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—അപ്പോൾ എല്ലാവർക്കും മുമ്പേ പോകണമെന്നും ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേഫ് പി. കുണ്ടുകുളം.—അതിനു് കുടത്തിൽ നറുക്കിട്ടെടുക്ക എന്നൊരു സമ്പ്രദായം നമ്മുടെ പോലീസ് കമ്മീഷണർ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തീട്ടുണ്ടു്. പക്ഷെ ആ നറുക്കിട്ടെടുക്കുന്നതിലും ഒരു വിഷമം പറയുന്നതു് അദ്ദേഹത്തെ പ്രത്യേകമായി ഞാൻ ഓർമ്മിപ്പിക്കുന്നു. കുന്നംകുളത്തേക്കു ഓടുന്ന വണ്ടി അവിടെ നിർത്തണം. ഗുരുവായൂക്കു് വേറെവണ്ടി ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യണം. ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു വണ്ടി കുന്നംകുളത്തോ ഗുരുവായൂരോ എത്തിയാൽ ഗുരുവായൂർ പോയവണ്ടി തിരിച്ചു വരുന്നതുവരെ മറ്റെല്ലാ വണ്ടിയും അവിടെ കിടക്കണം. ഇങ്ങിനെ ഇങ്ങോട്ടു വരേണ്ട സമയവും നറുക്കിടുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് കാലത്തു തൃശ്ശൂർനിന്നും പുറപ്പെടുന്ന വണ്ടി കുന്നംകുളത്തു ആറുമണിവരെ കിടക്കേണ്ടിവന്നു പോകുന്നു. അതിനാൽ ആദ്യം പോകുന്ന വണ്ടിക്കു ആദ്യം തിരിച്ചു വരാമെന്നു വയ്ക്കുണ്ടതാണു്.

ഏതായാലും കുത്തക ഏർപ്പാടു വേണ്ടെന്നുവെച്ചു മണിക്കൂറിൽ ഒരു ബസ്സിനെ പെർമിറ്റ് കൊടുക്കയുള്ളു എന്നു നിയമം നടപ്പിലാക്കണമെന്നാണു് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

മിസ്റ്റർ. ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—ബസ്സുകളുടെ കാര്യം വളരെ ഗൌരവതരമായ ഒന്നാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ബസ്സില്ലാതെ സ്ഥലമില്ല. ആക്ഷേപമില്ലാത്ത ദിവസവും ഇല്ല. അതിനാൽ ബസ്സു ഉട

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മന്ത്രിമാരടങ്ങിയ ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റിയെ നിയമിച്ചു ഇക്കാര്യം തീരുമാനിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണ് (*Hear, hear*).

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Sir, I would like to hear the Government side in the matter.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Sir, the first point raised is against the non-recognition of the brake certificates issued by the British and Travancore authorities as valid in the State. That point was once attempted to be solved by my predecessor in office when it so happened that the British authorities were against accepting our certificates as valid there. Further it is one of the conditions of the G permit that the fitness certificate for running a bus should be issued by an officer approved by the Commissioner of Police. Hence that provision has to be amended if the new rule is to be brought into force. Since other Governments are not in favour of reciprocity in this respect, I do not think it advisable to alter the existing procedure.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Are the Travanoore authorities against it?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The British authorities are against it, and so the Travancore authorities were not specially consulted in the matter.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—On a point of information. May I know, Sir, whether, in the case of boats, the three States do not issue licenses? Brake certificate is something like the license.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Licenses for boats are recognised but the Boiler Certificates of our State are not recognised.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—In the case of motor boats it is recognised.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—In the case of motor boats there are no boiler certificates.

Mr. K. Muhamed Seethi.—In the case of motor boats we do not make any distinction. We allow them.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Another point raised is that buses are not allowed to go through certain roads in Ernakulam Town. This restriction was introduced because there was representation from the public of Ernakulam as well as from the school authorities that buses should not be allowed to run on the Chittur road often. It is very dangerous to allow buses to go through that road because the road is narrow and there are two schools. In the interests of the public, especially of the school-going population, the restriction had to be ordered.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—During vacation time!

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Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Ever since the change is introduced there is no complaint.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Was there any accident till now?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Prevention is always better than cure.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I cannot say at the spur of the moment whether there has been any accident.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—For that purpose you can regulate the speed.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—It is not practicable to regulate speed always. I may say that it is even impossible to run a car at the rate of five miles speed an hour.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The question is why it is not allowed to go even near the Railway Station.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—It goes as far as the Railway Station.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I was under the impression that they are not allowed to go near the Railway Station. Then it is all right.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are not buses allowed to run in the China Bazaar road in Madras?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—There are accidents also there.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Is the Trippunittura road so very wide as the Chittur road?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I think it is rather wider. Besides there is not so much of traffic there as in the Ernakulam Town roads.

The other point raised is with regard to the timings of the buses. Everything that is possible has been done in the matter. The Traffic Inspector goes from place to place and meets the bus owners in conference and the timings of each bus are given. There has absolutely been no grievance from any body in this matter. Hence it will be seen that everything that is possible and reasonable is done in the matter. Wherever there is any disagreement between the bus owners the matter is settled by casting lots. Thus there is no room for complaint in this respect.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—What about the Unions I suggested?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The Unions are not prohibited in British India and they are encouraged there. Here there is only one such instance. I think the Union in Ernakulam is working without any trouble.

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Then with regard to the registration of buses: The registration is not done and the G permit given as a matter of routine. When an application is received I ask them to state the line they want. If I find the line is already full of buses, I ask them to suggest other lines and service is then allowed. In fact such a procedure is not liked by the Motor dealers. Only the other day Mr. Barton Wright told me that it was killing trade. The Manager of the Pierce Leslie & Co., also told me the same thing because, if I restrict the number of buses, there will be no demand for them, and their sale will be cut down.

Now I shall turn to the auction sale, etc., suggested by the Hon'ble Member for Pazhayannur. I have not thought over the matter, but I find that the House is divided on this subject, and it is not easy to say whether, after all, this will be for the benefit of the travelling public. I do not consider that the granting of monopoly of motor service on a particular line is proper. It will be also destroying the privilege of such of the owners who are already in the field. It is not right for us to encourage one man at the expense of others. It is the public safety and convenience that should be our guide in the matter of controlling motor traffic. If only one man is to be allowed the right of running buses then I think that the best course would be for the Government themselves to do it. The Government may very well organise a motor transport department and conduct the whole service in the State. But such a thing, so far as I know is not attempted anywhere else, and I do not think it is advisable for us to take the lead in this matter.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—May I know, Sir, what the Hon'ble Member for Police has to say with regard to the appointment of a committee to enquire into this as suggested by my friend the Member for Nellai ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The point is whether there is any necessity for that. As matters stand at present, there is absolutely no need to consider this proposal. The motor traffic in our State is being controlled efficiently by the Department.

Deputy President.—Do you want to divide the House in this matter?

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—No, Sir. But with regard to some of the observations made by the Hon'ble Member for Government I would like to add a few words. With respect to the brake certificates it was said that he tried to move the British Government in the matter of recognition of our certificates, but he does not appear to have not addressed the Travancore Government on the matter. In the matter of Anchal Stamps there is co-operation between our State and the

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Travancore Government. It would not be proper to enforce our brake certificates on the Travancore buses. Cochin is a small State and we should try as far as possible to establish harmonious relationships with other States. We also find that the licenses issued to boats are valid in both the places.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Under the law there is reciprocity in that matter.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—I say that we should move in this matter so as to establish reciprocity in this matter also.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Why can't the Travancore Government move then?

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Perhaps this might not have been brought to the notice of the Travancore Government. I bring this to the notice of our Government and our Government will only be doing its duty in attending to this matter as early as possible.

Now with regard to traffic in the Chittur Road. Here, it was said that it is a congested area and that there was complaint about bus traffic in that road. In my opinion I do not think that there is any justification for closing this road for buses. There is no case that any accident has ever occurred. Though prevention is better than cure, prohibition is not a solution at all; for that will be like killing a man, in order to be free from disease. The right solution of the problem is to see that no accident occurs either by limiting the speed or by some other means. In Madras, etc., we find that trams as well as cars and buses are running through most of the congested roads. I do not think that Ernakulam is more congested than Madras. There, it is managed very efficiently, and no accidents occur. We should look to the convenience of the travelling public. There is a traffic department to control traffic. Moreover we find that Trippunihtura buses are allowed to run through the Chittur road, and there is nothing against that.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—They are not.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is also a dust nuisance in a small town like this.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—I press all these matters for the sympathetic consideration of the Government. With these few words I withdraw the cut motion.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 8.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,200 under Demand No. XVII-C. by Re. 1.*

The motion was not moved and hence it was considered withdrawn.

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Motion No. 9.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,10,913 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, that was tabled to ascertain information on two points, and the information on one point has already been supplied by the Hon'ble Member for Police. The other point on which I would like to get information is why it is that ordinary cars when converted into eight seaters are not licensed.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—They are not so in Madras. The body of an ordinary car will be light.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Is it because that it does not satisfy the requisite strength?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Certainly.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, in Madras too cars are not allowed to be converted. They must purchase new chaises, etc., if they are to be licensed.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Then, all right. I do not want to move the motion.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 10.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,10,913 under Demand No XVII-Police.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I rise to move the total omission of this Demand on the same policy and also upon one other point. That is last year we pressed upon the attention of the Commissioner of Police that as far as possible his department must be clothed with cloth made out of local stuff. I wish to know how far that also has been pursued, (*hear, hear*) and what the local quantity of local made clothes that have been purchased or utilised in his department? Otherwise there was no meaning to have held out a hope as is usually done from that side that we will do what we can. When we come here and ask what is done? The answer generally given is that it was not possible to do anything. That kind of half-hearted measures would not do. Hereafter we want full hearted measures. If you undertake to do a thing, do it, or do not undertake to do it. What you generally do is just to please us, for the moment you say that all that is possible will be done and then you do what you like. That is the reason why we are pressing this wholesale cut. A definite promise was made that as far as possible we will encourage clothes made in this country or Swadeshi clothes wherever possible. It should not be construed as meaning that as far as possible we will avoid it and only where it is inevitable we will use it. Now the latter is the meaning put upon it by you.

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This meaning was never intended by it. Wherever it was impossible to get Swadeshi clothes or indigenous clothes, there alone you ought to have used foreign clothes; otherwise clothes made in this country should have been used. It is an economical proposition and not a political proposition. It is not a proposition that has got a political colour in it. It is a proposition for the purpose of giving food and work to our own people and not for the sake of showing a feeling of boycott. We have not got any such movement in our land. I wish to know from the Hon'ble Member how far his department has been pursuing that policy? I have also tabled a question on this subject, and I hope that in due time I will get an answer. As far as his department is concerned, it was the Hon'ble Member himself who stood up and said that "as far as my department is concerned, I will accept the policy of Swadeshi".

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I still stick to that policy. But the difficulty is to get good Swadeshi Kakki.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Were tenders invited?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Yes.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—The Trichur Sitaram Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd., supply the whole Kakki for the whole of the Hyderabad State. The yarn is made in Trichur in their mills, and it is also woven there. They have got the necessary arrangements for dyeing and other purposes. This is the Kakki which is used by the Police and Military of the Hyderabad State.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Did you, Sir, in inviting tenders, make any provision that tenderers should send samples of local made cloth as well?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menen.—No. I simply said Kakki.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Therefore, I say that it was your duty after having accepted a proposition of the House to encourage the use of Swadeshi Kakki and to have put in a provision in the notification inviting the tenders, that tenderers are requested to send in samples of cloth made locally or Swadeshi cloth.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—The thing is that they have not taken us seriously.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Not so.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is the position. You don't take us seriously. That is our case. Then what is the use of giving an undertaking—that we shall as far as possible try to do this? My question is why should you invite tenders without incorporating a provision to this effect in view of the Government accepting the proposition of the Legislative Council that as far as possible indigenous clothes or cloth manufactured in Cochin

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will be encouraged. Now everybody knows what it is. In the EngineeringDepartment it will be said when tenders are invited that cement and other articles will be supplied departmentally. When constructions are to be carried out in any work, they specifically say that as far as cement is concerned for this work it will be supplied by the department, at certain costs. Now this is introduced in the tenders of the Public Works Department. That is why I am saying, if the Commissioner of Police was serious enough, he could have introduced one *N. B.*that samples of Swadeshi clothes should be attached. What I say is that what took place in this House and the intention of the Government, as accepted should have been made known to the supplying public. Then only they will know. Now the Hon'ble Member says that he does not know whether good Kakki (Swadshi) will be available or not and he was also under the impression that it is difficult to get good Swadeshi cloth. But he does not know that the Hyderabad State is satisfied with our Swadeshi Kakki. If you were earnest, you would have asked anybody or at least inquired. The Government can at least give an indication that they are earnest. Therefore, upon these grounds and for not carrying out the promise made in the House I move that the whole of the demand be omitted.

Motion put and agreed to.

9. XII—Police—Cranganur—Rs. 7,810.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 7,810 for the working of my department in Cranganur, for the year 1106.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. K. Kunhi Moideen.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 7,810 under "Demand No. XII by Re. 1.*

As it was not moved the motion was considered withdrawn

The motion for the grant of Rs. 7,810 for Police—Cranganur was put and agreed to.

10. XXVII—Public Works—Rs. 16,04,134.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—In presenting the budget of the Public Works Department for the coming year I have the honour to furnish you, as is customary, with a brief account of works done by us this year to see how far our anticipations during the last budget session have been realised and also to explain matters regarding new works proposed to be undertaken next year.

Improvements to communications have been the principal feature of the 1105 Budget, and in that section was included the epoch making mountain road to Nelliampathies and the first section of the Chelakkara-Elnad Road. (*Hear, hear*)

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Another important road is the one connecting the Eruma petty and Ponnani roads through Varavur.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Varavur to the West.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Members will be surprised to know at the vast extent of fertile lands which lie between the ranges of Matchad hills, Talappalli Taluk, and unfortunately the extent of primitiveness to which a section of our people is reduced for want of communications. The tales of long wearisome hours of walking, difficulty to procure building materials, medical attendance, registration of documents, etc., common to inaccessible areas were all present. The only sign of civilisation, I found in that area, was the Malayalam school and its Head-master, and I envied the Director of Public Instruction for having secured the honour in having hoisted his flag before I did.

Complete estimates for the road about 5½ miles long costing about Rs. 63,000 of which Rs. 11,000 is for land acquisition have been submitted during the year and land acquisition proceedings are at present going on. It is included in our scheme of opening up the block of territory, the road connecting Varavur to the west of Thichur and from Thichur again to Nelluwaye.

The Mala-Adoor road costing about Rs. 43,000 has been virtually completed as anticipated by me last year. Final measurements only remain to be taken.

The Karalom-Kizhuthani road has been completed except the concrete decking for a bridge which is at the present moment being attended to.

The Peppathippara-Velianad road work has progressed well but due to certain complaints at the last moment by certain land-holders got a slight check. Anyhow more than three quarters of the work will be completed by the end of the year.

The girders of the Panar thodu bridge would have been shipped from Calcutta by this time and are expected to arrive here in three weeks. This will link the southern most extremity of Cochin with Ernakulam.

The Member for Vadakkancheri might perhaps tell you about the representations and petitions we had to make through before acceding to his proposal of constructing the road to Machad via Enkakad. It had later to be decided that both the alignments had to be undertaken. These caused delay but land acquisition proceedings and estimates have been submitted about six months ago. The acquisitions, I understand, are nearing completion.

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The alignments for the small road in Pallurutty are also, I am informed, nearing completion.

When I budgetted my Rs. 23,000 for the Nelliampathies Ghat Road works, I had misgivings about being able to show sufficient progress in that work But fortunately with the help of those working under me I was able to show substantial progress in road construction in that difficult country. I have trudged through, in the past five years, many a forest in Cochin—the Paravattani and Machad ranges, attempted the long-aching trip from Nelliampathies to Kuriarkutty, Kanjirapilli to Adirapilli, Karapparakutti to Poringalkuttu and can claim a fair knowledge of the topography of the Cochin forests. But nowhere have I seen a hill more rocky, treacherous or cavitated by ravines as the Nelliampathies. The progress, therefore, shown on this work should be considered as encouraging.

In irrigation works scheduled for 1105, we were not able, by circumstances, to do as much as we anticipated. The Konath river scheme was held back pending approval of the Travancore Government and the Muriyad-Kakkathurutti canal in deference to the wishes of this Council. But it will be seen that we have this year submitted a complete scheme for the prevention of floods in Thottipal and Parappukkara villages, accounts of which were published in extenso in the Government Gazette. This difficult problem for which investigations were vigorously going on for the last three years was baffling this Government for the last 20 years or more. The scheme now put forward is unique in conception and entirely new. It is unique because it adopts the principle of utilising the Muriyad lake itself as a flood moderating reservoir, an aspect which is so seldom taken into consideration in works of such magnitude. While many schemes to meet this problem found a place in the local papers and occupied a fair amount of time in the deliberation of this Council the fact that I had to reject them all will show, if nothing else, the honesty of our purpose and the firmness of our convictions.

The estimate for the Manapat chira works though submitted early in the year had to be delayed as it was thought that a further scrutiny was necessary by the revenue authorities and the Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats. They have both now approved of the scheme set forth by me and I was also benefited by the observations of the Revenue Member regarding certain points relating to land acquisitions. The work at present is well under way.

The Member for Kunnamkulam has during the year brought to my notice the needs of certain ryots near Vettikadavu for a

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canal and I have already, after investigation started on the work. Similarly at the instance of the Member for Vadakkancheri I have begun another irrigation work in Aloor.

I only wish if other Members of this Council will take their example and study the conditions and needs of their constituents and bring to my notice affairs of a similar nature. (*Hear, hear.*)

The Moolattara improvements have been steadily going on for the last five years and I am glad to say that we have completely regraded the canal for the first nine miles. One more furlong remains to be done and it will be attended to next year. It is said that the improvements to Moolattura has worked to the permanent detriment to the other systems. It is sometimes wise to answer foolish allegations.

The difficulty in the Moolattura system had all along been the impossibility to get water through the canals even when there was enough water in the river for all the systems together. Consequently cultivation in that system, which is the biggest of all was also the most precarious. Eries could not be filled properly during freshets and during times of normal flow great scarcity was felt. Complaints were real and insistent and the works we did we recalculated to bring it to a condition in which it will be possible to take as much watar as possible during freshets and fill up the eries in time. Since there are excellent regulators at the head works and along the canal it is always possible to limit the supply to the Moolattara canal, if necessary, during times of scarcity so as not to starve the other systems.

Works in the next year will include the construction of bridges across the Chengal thodu in Chowwara which the member for Vellarappalli will be able to appreciate.

The bridges across the Korayar will also be constructed.

The Member for Nellayi was agitating for the extension of the road to Vellikulangara. This work has been provided for and will be in a good state of progress by the end of the next year. The first section of the Chalakkudi Railway Station to Mala road will be undertaken next year and, if possible, completed.

As I have had occasion to tell you last year, grants for buildings are for the purposes of the different Departments of the State and their utility will, I am sure, be explained by the representative Departmental Heads.

As regards Irrigation works we have provided for in all Rs. 1,68,674 of which Rs. 1,37,590 go for original works. I have every confidence that the full amount will be spent during the coming year (*Hear, hear*).

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The canal section of the P. W. D. worked satisfactorily during the year. There were no accidents, and the inspection and regulations of boats can be said to have been on the whole satisfactory.

The new conditions which changed the line of navigation between Ernakulam and Mattancheri is, at present, causing us some anxiety. The ferry boats have to go near the Harbour mouth on their way to Mattancheri from Ernakulam. (*Hear,hear*). This constitutes a danger and we have been considering on the construction of a canal betwen Vendurutti and the Reclamation. Negotiations are, at present, going on for the hiring of the Harbour dredger for doing the work.

No new items are contemplated in point of water supply to Ernakulam, Mattancheri, Aiylur and Nemmara as they have at present reached a satisfactory stage.

I now beg that the demand of Rs. 16,04,134 under 'XXVII Public Works' may be passed by the Council.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I don't wish to move any cut motion. As three holidays are in immediate proximity, many of the Members wish to avail themselves of the last train which leaves Ernakulam at 4-50. On their behalf I may move the adjournment of the House, so that there may not be inconvenience. On behalf of the Council I move for the adjournment of the House.

Mr. C. J. Mathew—I second it.

The motion for the adjournment of the Council was put to votes and agreed to.

The House rose for the day at 7 to 4 p. m.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,
Secretary to the Council.

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